



























THE  
CONSTITUTIONS  
OF THE  
SEVERAL STATES OF THE UNION  
AND  
UNITED STATES,  
INCLUDING  
THE DECLARATION OF INDEPENDENCE  
AND  
ARTICLES OF CONFEDERATION.

TAKEN FROM AUTHENTIC DOCUMENTS.



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A. S. BARNES & CO.'S EDITION  
OF THE  
UNITED STATES  
CONSTITUTIONS.

THIS EDITION CONTAINS ALL THE NEW CONSTITUTIONS OF THE  
VARIOUS STATES OF THE UNION TO THE SPRING OF 1859.



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## DECLARATION OF INDEPENDENCE.

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WHEN, in the course of human events, it becomes necessary for one people to dissolve the political bands which have connected them with another, and to assume, among the powers of the earth, the separate and equal station to which the laws of nature and of nature's God entitle them, a decent respect to the opinions of mankind requires that they should declare the causes which impel them to the separation.

We hold these truths to be self-evident: that all men are created equal; that they are endowed by their Creator with certain inalienable rights; that among these are life, liberty; and the pursuit of happiness. That, to secure these rights, governments are instituted among men, deriving their just powers from the consent of the governed; and that, whenever any form of government becomes destructive of these ends, it is the right of the people to alter or abolish it, and to institute new government, laying its foundations on such principles, and organizing its powers in such form, as to them shall seem most likely to effect their safety and happiness. Prudence, indeed, will dictate that governments, long established, should not be changed for light and transient causes; and, accordingly, all experience hath shown, that mankind are more disposed to suffer, while evils are sufferable, than to right themselves by abolishing the forms to which they are accustomed. But, when a long train of abuses and usurpations, pursuing invariably the same object, evinces a design to reduce them under absolute despotism, it is their right, it is their duty, to throw off such government, and to provide new guards for their future security. Such has been the patient sufferance of the colonies, and such is now the necessity which constrains them to alter their former systems of government. The history of the present king of Great Britain is a history of repeated injuries and usurpations, all having, in direct object, the establishment of an absolute tyranny over these states. To prove this, let facts be submitted to a candid world:

He has refused his assent to laws the most wholesome and necessary for the public good.

He has forbidden his governors to pass laws of immediate and pressing importance, unless suspended in their operations till his assent should be obtained; and, when so suspended, he has utterly neglected to attend to them.

He has refused to pass other laws for the accommodation of large districts of people, unless those people would relinquish the right of representation in the legislature—a right inestimable to them, and formidable to tyrants only.

He has called together legislative bodies at places unusual, uncomfortable, and distant from the repository of their public records, for the sole purpose of fatiguing them into compliance with his measures.

He has dissolved representative houses repeatedly, for opposing with manly firmness his invasions on the rights of the people.

He has refused, for a long time after such dissolutions, to cause others to be elected; whereby the legislative powers, incapable of annihilation, have returned to the people at large for their exercise; the state remaining, in the meantime, exposed to all the dangers of invasion from without, and convulsions within.

He has endeavored to prevent the population of these states; for that purpose, obstructing the laws of naturalization of foreigners, refusing to pass others to encourage their migration thither, and raising the conditions of new appropriations of lands.

He has obstructed the administration of justice, by refusing his assent to laws for establishing judiciary powers.

He has made judges dependent on his will alone for the tenure of their offices, and the amount and payment of their salaries.

He has erected a multitude of new offices, and sent hither swarms of officers to harass our people, and eat out their substance.

He has kept among us in time of peace, standing armies, without the consent of our legislatures.

He has affected to render the military independent of, and superior to, the civil power.

He has combined, with others, to subject us to a jurisdiction foreign to our constitution, and unacknowledged by our laws; giving his assent to their acts of pretended legislation.

For quartering large bodies of armed troops among us.

For protecting them, by a mock trial, from punishment for any murders which they should commit on the inhabitants of these states.

For cutting off our trade with all parts of the world.

For imposing taxes on us without our consent.

For depriving us, in many cases, of the benefit of trial by jury.

For transporting us beyond seas, to be tried for pretended offences.

For abolishing the free system of English laws in a neighboring province, establishing therein an arbitrary government, and enlarging its boundaries so as to render it at once an example and fit instrument for introducing the same absolute rule into these colonies.



For taking away our charters, abolishing our most valuable laws, and altering, fundamentally, the forms of our governments.

For suspending our own legislatures, and declaring themselves invested with power to legislate for us in all cases whatsoever.

He has abdicated government here, by declaring us out of his protection, and waging war against us.

He has plundered our seas, ravaged our coasts, burnt our towns, and destroyed the lives of our people.

He is, at this time, transporting large armies of foreign mercenaries to complete the works of death, desolation, and tyranny, already begun, with circumstances of cruelty and perfidy scarcely paralleled in the most barbarous ages, and totally unworthy the head of a civilized nation.

He has constrained our fellow-citizens, taken captive on the high seas, to bear arms against their country, to become the executioners of their friends and brethren, or to fall themselves by their hands.

He has excited domestic insurrections amongst us, and has endeavored to bring on the inhabitants of our frontiers the merciless Indian savages, whose known rule of warfare is an undistinguished destruction of all ages, sexes, and conditions.

In every stage of these oppressions, we have petitioned for redress in the most humble terms. Our repeated petitions have been answered only by repeated injuries. A prince, whose character is thus marked by every act which may define a tyrant, is unfit to be the ruler of a free people.

Nor have we been wanting in attention to our British brethren. We have warned them, from time to time, of the attempts by their legislature, to extend an unwarrantable jurisdiction over us. We have reminded them of the circumstances of our emigration and settlement here. We have appealed to their native justice and magnanimity, and we have conjured them, by the ties of our common kindred, to disavow these usurpations, which would inevitably interrupt our connections and correspondence. They, too, have been deaf to the voice of justice and of consanguinity. We must, therefore, acquiesce in the necessity which denounces our separation, and hold them as we hold the rest of mankind, enemies in war, in peace, friends.

We, therefore, the Representatives of the United States of America, in General Congress assembled, appealing to the Supreme Judge of the world for the rectitude of our intentions, do, in the name and by the authority of the good people of these colonies, solemnly publish and declare that these United Colonies are, and of right ought to be, free and independent States; that they are absolved from all allegiance to the British crown, and that all political connection between them and the state of Great Britain is, and ought to be, totally dissolved; and that, as free and independent States, they have full power to levy war, conclude peace, contract alliances, establish commerce, and to do all other acts and things which independent States may of right do. And, for the support of this declaration,



with a firm reliance on the protection of Divine Providence, we mutually pledge to each other our lives, our fortunes, and our sacred honor.

The foregoing declaration was, by order of Congress, engrossed, and signed by the following members :

### JOHN HANCOCK.

#### *New Hampshire.*

JOSIAH BARTLETT,  
WILLIAM WHIPPLE,  
MATTHEW THORNTON.

GEORGE TAYLOR,  
JAMES WILSON,  
GEORGE ROSS.

#### *Massachusetts Bay.*

SAMUEL ADAMS,  
JOHN ADAMS,  
ROBERT TREAT PAINE,  
ELBRIDGE GERRY.

*Delaware.*  
CÆSAR RODNEY,  
GEORGE READ,  
THOMAS M'KEAN.

#### *Rhode Island.*

STEPHEN HOPKINS,  
WILLIAM ELLERY.

*Maryland.*  
SAMUEL CHASE,  
WILLIAM PACA,  
THOMAS STONE,  
CHARLES CARROLL, of  
Carrollton.

#### *Connecticut.*

ROGER SHERMAN,  
SAMUEL HUNTINGTON,  
WILLIAM WILLIAMS,  
OLIVER WOLCOTT.

*Virginia.*  
GEORGE WYTHE,  
RICHARD HENRY LEE,  
THOMAS JEFFERSON,  
BENJAMIN HARRISON,  
THOMAS NELSON, Jr.  
FRANCIS LIGHTFOOT LEE,  
CARTER BRAXTON.

#### *New York.*

WILLIAM FLOYD,  
PHILIP LIVINGSTON,  
FRANCIS LEWIS,  
LEWIS MORRIS.

*North Carolina.*  
WILLIAM HOOPER,  
JOSEPH HEWES,  
JOHN PENN.

#### *New Jersey.*

RICHARD STOCKTON,  
JOHN WITHERSPOON,  
FRANCIS HOPKINSON,  
JOHN HART,  
ABRAHAM CLARK.

*South Carolina.*  
EDWARD RUTLEDGE,  
THOMAS HEYWARD, Jr.  
THOMAS LYNCH, Jr.  
ARTHUR MIDDLETON.

#### *Pennsylvania.*

ROBERT MORRIS,  
BENJAMIN RUSH,  
BENJAMIN FRANKLIN,  
JOHN MORTON,  
GEORGE CLYMER,  
JAMES SMITH,

*Georgia.*  
BUTTON GWINNETT,  
LYMAN HALL,  
GEORGE WALTON.

## ARTICLES OF CONFEDERATION, &c.

---

TO ALL TO WHOM THESE PRESENTS SHALL COME.

*We, the undersigned, delegates of the States affixed to our names, send greeting :*

WHEREAS, the delegates of the United States of America, in congress assembled did, on the fifteenth day of November, in the year of our Lord one thousand seven hundred and seventy-seven, and in the second year of the independence of America, agree to certain articles of confederation and perpetual union between the states of New Hampshire, Massachusetts Bay, Rhode Island and Providence Plantations, Connecticut, New-York, New-Jersey, Pennsylvania, Delaware, Maryland, Virginia, North-Carolina, South-Carolina, and Georgia, in the words following, viz :

Articles of confederation and perpetual union between the states of New-Hampshire, Massachusetts Bay, Rhode Island and Providence Plantations, Connecticut, New-York, New-Jersey, Pennsylvania, Delaware, Maryland, Virginia, North-Carolina, South-Carolina, and Georgia.

ARTICLE 1. The style of this confederacy shall be, “ The United States of America.”

ART. 2. Each state retains its sovereignty, freedom and independence, and every power, jurisdiction and right, which is not by this confederation expressly delegated to the United States in congress assembled.

ART. 3. The said states hereby severally enter into a firm league of friendship with each other for their common defence, the security of their liberties, and their mutual and general welfare ; binding themselves to assist each other against all force offered to, or attacks made upon them, or any of them, on account of religion, sovereignty, trade, or any other pretext whatever.

ART. 4. The better to secure and perpetuate mutual friendship and intercourse among the people of the different states in this union, the free inhabitants of each of these states, paupers, vagabonds, and fugitives from justice excepted, shall be entitled to all privileges and immunities of free citizens in the several states ; and the people of each state shall have free ingress and regress to and from any

other state, and shall enjoy therein all the privileges of trade and commerce, subject to the same duties, impositions, and restrictions, as the inhabitants thereof respectively, provided that such restrictions shall not extend so far as to prevent the removal of property imported into any state to any other state, of which the owner is an inhabitant; provided, also, that no imposition, duties, or restriction, shall be laid by any state on the property of the United States, or either of them.

If any person guilty of or charged with treason, felony, or other high misdemeanor, in any state, shall flee from justice, and be found in any of the United States, he shall, upon demand of the governor, or executive power of the state from which he fled, be delivered up, and removed to the state having jurisdiction of his offence.

Full faith and credit shall be given in each of these states to the records, acts, and judicial proceedings of the courts and magistrates of every other state.

ART. 5. For the more convenient management of the general interests of the United States, delegates shall be annually appointed in such manner as the legislature of each state shall direct, to meet in congress on the first Monday in November, in every year, with a power reserved to each state to recall its delegates or any of them, at any time within the year, and to send others in their stead for the remainder of the year.

No state shall be represented in congress by less than two nor more than seven members; and no person shall be capable of being a delegate for more than three years in any term of six years; nor shall any person, being a delegate, be capable of holding an office under the United States, for which he, or another for his benefit, receives any salary, fees, or emolument of any kind.

Each state shall maintain its own delegates in a meeting of the states, and while they act as members of the committee of the states.

In determining questions in the United States in congress assembled, each state shall have one vote.

Freedom of speech and debate in congress shall not be impeached or questioned in any court or place out of congress; and the members of congress shall be protected in



their persons from arrests and imprisonments, during the time of their going to and from and attendance on congress, except for treason, felony, or breach of the peace.

ART. 6. No state, without the consent of the United States in congress assembled, shall send an embassy to, or receive any embassy from, or enter into any conference, agreement, alliance, or treaty, with any king, prince, or state ; nor shall any person holding any office of profit or trust under the United States or any of them, accept of any present, emolument, office, or title of any kind whatever, from any king, prince, or foreign state ; nor shall the United States in congress assembled, or any of them, grant any title of nobility.

No two or more states shall enter into any treaty, confederation, or alliance whatever between them, without the consent of the United States in congress assembled, specifying accurately the purpose for which the same is to be entered into, and how long it shall continue.

No state shall lay any imposts or duties, which may interfere with any stipulations in treaties entered into by the United States in congress assembled, with any king, prince, or state, in pursuance of any treaties already proposed by congress to the courts of France and Spain.

No vessels of war shall be kept up in time of peace, by any state, except such number as shall be deemed necessary by the United States in congress assembled, for the defence of such state or its trade ; nor shall any body of forces be kept up by any state in time of peace, except such number only as, in the judgment of the United States in congress assembled, shall be deemed requisite to garrison the forts necessary for the defence of such state ; but every state shall always keep up a well-regulated and disciplined militia, sufficiently armed and accoutred, and shall provide and have constantly ready for use, in public stores, a number of field pieces and tents, and a proper quantity of arms, ammunition, and camp equipage.

No state shall engage in any war without the consent of the United States in congress assembled, unless such state be actually invaded by enemies, or shall have received certain advice of a resolution being formed by some nation of Indians to invade such state, and the danger is

so imminent as not to admit of a delay till the United States in congress assembled can be consulted; nor shall any state grant commissions to any ships or vessels of war, or letters of marque or reprisal, except it be after a declaration of war by the United States in congress assembled, and then only against the kingdom or state, and the subjects thereof, against which war has been so declared, and under such regulations as shall be established by the United States in congress assembled, unless such state be infested by pirates, in which case vessels of war may be fitted out for that occasion, and kept so long as the danger shall continue, or until the United States in congress assembled shall determine otherwise.

ART. 7. When land forces are raised by any state for the common defence, all officers of or under the rank of colonel, shall be appointed by the legislature of each state respectively, by whom such forces shall be raised, or in such manner as such state shall direct; and all vacancies shall be filled up by the state which first made the appointment.

ART. 8. All charges of war, and all other expenses that shall be incurred for the common defence or general welfare, and allowed by the United States in congress assembled, shall be defrayed out of a common treasury, which shall be supplied by the several states in proportion to the value of all land within each state granted to or surveyed for any person, as such land and the buildings and improvements thereon shall be estimated, according to such mode as the United States in congress assembled shall from time to time direct and appoint.

The taxes for paying that proportion shall be laid and levied by the authority and direction of the legislatures of the several states, within the time agreed upon by the United States in congress assembled.

ART. 9. The United States in congress assembled shall have the sole and exclusive right and power of determining on peace and war, except in the cases mentioned in the sixth article: of sending and receiving ambassadors: entering into treaties and alliances; provided that no treaty of commerce shall be made whereby the legislative power of the respective states shall be restrained from imposing such imposts



and duties on foreigners as their own people are subjected to, or from prohibiting the exportation or importation of any species of goods or commodities whatsoever : of establishing rules for deciding in all cases, what captures on land or water shall be legal, and in what manner prizes taken by land or naval forces in the service of the United States shall be divided or appropriated : of granting letters of marque and reprisal, in times of peace : appointing courts for the trial of piracies and felonies committed on the high seas, and establishing courts for receiving and determining finally appeals in all cases of captures ; provided, that no member of congress shall be appointed a judge of any of the said courts.

The United States in congress assembled shall also be the last resort on appeal in all disputes and differences now subsisting, or that hereafter may arise between two or more states concerning boundary, jurisdiction, or any other cause whatever ; which authority shall always be exercised in the manner following : whenever the legislative or executive authority or lawful agent of any state in controversy with another shall present a petition to congress, stating the matter in question, and praying for a hearing, notice thereof shall be given by order of congress to the legislative or executive authority of the other state in controversy, and a day assigned for the appearance of the parties, by their lawful agents, who shall then be directed to appoint by joint consent commissioners or judges to constitute a court for hearing and determining the matter in question ; but if they cannot agree, congress shall name three persons out of each of the United States, and from the list of such persons each party shall alternately strike out one, the petitioners beginning, until the number shall be reduced to thirteen ; and from that number not less than seven nor more than nine names, as congress shall direct, shall, in the presence of congress, be drawn out by lot ; and the persons whose names shall be so drawn, or any five of them, shall be commissioners or judges, to hear and finally determine the controversy, so always as a major part of the judges, who shall hear the cause, shall agree in the determination ; and if either party shall neglect to attend at the day appointed, without showing reasons

which congress shall judge sufficient, or being present shall refuse to strike, the congress shall proceed to nominate three persons out of each state, and the secretary of congress shall strike in behalf of such party absent or refusing; and the judgment and sentence of the court to be appointed in the manner before prescribed, shall be final and conclusive; and if any of the parties shall refuse to submit to the authority of such court, or to appear, or defend their claim or cause, the court shall nevertheless proceed to pronounce sentence or judgment, which shall in like manner be final and decisive, the judgment or sentence, and other proceedings, being in either case transmitted to congress, and lodged among the acts of congress for the security of the parties concerned: provided, that every commissioner, before he sits in judgment, shall take an oath, to be administered by one of the judges of the supreme or superior court of the state, where the cause shall be tried, "well and truly to hear and determine the matter in question, according to the best of his judgment, without favor, affection, or hope of reward:" provided also, that no state shall be deprived of territory for the benefit of the United States.

All controversies concerning the private right of soil, claimed under different grants of two or more states, whose jurisdiction as they may respect such lands and the states which passed such grants are adjusted, the said grants or either of them being at the same time claimed to have originated antecedent to such settlement of jurisdiction, shall, on the petition of either party to the congress of the United States, be finally determined, as near as may be, in the same manner as is before prescribed for deciding disputes respecting territorial jurisdiction between different states.

The United States in congress assembled shall also have the sole and exclusive right and power of regulating the alloy and value of coin struck by their own authority, or by that of the respective states; fixing the standard of weights and measures throughout the United States: regulating the trade and managing all affairs with Indians not members of any of the states; provided, that the legislative right of any state within its own limits be not infringed or



violated : establishing and regulating post-offices from one state to another, throughout all the United States, and exacting such postage on the papers passing through the same as may be requisite to defray the expenses of the said office : appointing all officers of the land forces in the service of the United States, excepting regimental officers : appointing all the officers of the naval forces, and commissioning all officers whatever in the service of the United States : making rules for the government and regulation of the said land and naval forces, and directing their operations.

The United States in congress assembled shall have authority to appoint a committee to sit in the recess of congress, to be denominated “ a committee of the states ; ” and to consist of one delegate from each state, and to appoint such other committees and civil officers as may be necessary for managing the general affairs of the United States, under their direction : to appoint one of their number to preside, provided that no person be allowed to serve in the office of president more than one year in any term of three years : to ascertain the necessary sums of money to be raised for the service of the United States, and to appropriate and apply the same for defraying the public expenses : to borrow money or emit bills on the credit of the United States, transmitting every half year to the respective states an account of the sums of money so borrowed or emitted : to build and equip a navy : to agree upon the number of land forces, and to make requisitions from each state for its quota, in proportion to the number of white inhabitants in each state ; which requisition shall be binding, and thereupon the legislature of each state shall appoint the regimental officers, raise the men, and clothe, arm, and equip them in a soldier-like manner, at the expense of the United States ; and the officers and men so clothed, armed and equipped, shall march to the place appointed, and within the time agreed on by the United States in congress assembled : but if the United States in congress assembled, shall, on consideration of circumstances, judge proper that any state should not raise men, or should raise a smaller number than its quota, and that any other state should raise a greater number of men than the

quota thereof, such extra number shall be raised, officered, clothed, armed, and equipped, in the same manner as the quota of such state, unless the legislature of such state shall judge that such extra number cannot safely be spared out of the same; in which case they shall raise, officer, clothe, arm, and equip, as many of such extra number as they judge can safely be spared. And the officers and men so clothed, armed, and equipped, shall march to the place appointed, and within the time agreed on by the United States in congress assembled.

The United States in congress assembled shall never engage in a war, nor grant letters of marque and reprisal in time of peace, nor enter into any treaties or alliances, nor coin money, nor regulate the value thereof, nor ascertain the sums and expenses necessary for the defence and welfare of the United States or any of them, nor emit bills, nor borrow money on the credit of the United States, nor appropriate money, nor agree upon the number of vessels of war to be built or purchased, or the number of land or sea forces to be raised, nor appoint a commander in chief of the army or navy, unless nine states assent to the same; nor shall a question on any other point, except for adjourning from day to day, be determined, unless by the votes of a majority of the United States in congress assembled.

The congress of the United States shall have power to adjourn to any time within the year, and to any place within the United States, so that no period of adjournment be for a longer duration than the space of six months; and shall publish the journal of their proceedings monthly, except such parts thereof relating to treaties, alliances, or military operations, as in their judgment require secrecy; and the yeas and nays of the delegates of each state on any question shall be entered on the journal when it is desired by any delegate; and the delegates of a state, or any of them, at his or their request, shall be furnished with a transcript of the said journal, except such parts as are above excepted, to lay before the legislatures of the several states.

ART. 10. The committee of the states, or any nine of them, shall be authorized to execute in the recess of congress, such of the powers of congress as the United States



in congress assembled, by the consent of nine states, shall, from time to time, think expedient to vest them with; provided that no power be delegated to the said committee, for the exercise of which, by the articles of confederation, the voice of nine states in the congress of the United States assembled is requisite.

ART. 11. Canada, acceding to this confederation, and joining in the measures of the United States, shall be admitted into, and entitled to, all the advantages of this union. but no other colony shall be admitted into the same unless such admission be agreed to by nine states.

ART. 12. All bills of credit emitted, moneys borrowed, debts contracted, by or under the authority of congress, before the assembling of the United States, in pursuance of the present confederation, shall be deemed and considered as a charge against the United States, for payment and satisfaction whereof the said United States and the public faith are hereby solemnly pledged.

ART. 13. Every state shall abide by the determination of the United States in congress assembled, on all questions which, by this confederation, are submitted to them. And the articles of this confederation shall be inviolably observed by every state, and the union shall be perpetual; nor shall any alteration at any time hereafter be made in any of them, unless such alteration be agreed to in a congress of the United States, and be afterwards confirmed by the legislature of every state.

And whereas it has pleased the Great Governor of the world to incline the hearts of the legislatures we respectively represent in congress, to approve of and to authorize us to ratify the said articles of confederation and perpetual union: KNOW YE, That we, the undersigned delegates, by virtue of the power and authority to us given for that purpose, do, by these presents, in the name and in behalf of our respective constituents, fully and entirely ratify and confirm each and every of the said articles of confederation and perpetual union, and all and singular the matters and things therein contained; and we do further solemnly plight and engage the faith of our respective constituents, that they shall abide by the determinations of the United States in congress assembled, on all questions which, by the said con-



federation, are submitted to them; and that the articles thereof shall be inviolably observed by the states we respectively represent; and that the union shall be perpetual.

In witness whereof, we have hereunto set our hands, in congress. Done at Philadelphia, in the state of Pennsylvania, the ninth day of July, in the year of our Lord one thousand seven hundred and seventy-eight, and in the third year of the independence of America.

*On the part and behalf of the state of New Hampshire.*

Josiah Bartlet,

John Wentworth, jun., August 8, 1778.

*On the part and behalf of the state of Massachusetts Bay.*

John Hancock,  
Samuel Adams,  
Elbridge Gerry,

Francis Dana,  
James Lovell,  
Samuel Holten.

*On the part and in behalf of the state of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations.*

William Ellery,  
Henry Marchant,

John Collins.

*On the part and behalf of the state of Connecticut.*

Roger Sherman,  
Samuel Huntington,  
Oliver Wolcott,

Titus Hosmer,  
Andrew Adams.

*On the part and behalf of the state of New-York.*

Jas. Duane,  
Fra. Lewis,

Wm. Duer,  
Gouv. Morris.

*On the part and in behalf of the state of New-Jersey.*

Jno. Witherspoon,

Nath. Scudder, Nov. 26, 1778.

*On the part and behalf of the state of Pennsylvania.*

Robt. Morris,  
Daniel Roberdeau,  
Jona. Bayard Smith,

William Clingan,  
Joseph Reed, 22d July, 1778.

*On the part and behalf of the state of Delaware.*

Tho. M'Kean, Feb. 13, 1779,  
John Dickinson, May 5th, 1779,

Nicholas Van Dyke.

*On the part and behalf of the state of Maryland.*

John Hanson, March 1, 1781.

Daniel Carroll, March 1, 1781.

*On the part and behalf of the state of Virginia.*

Richard Henry Lee,  
John Banister,  
Thomas Adams,

Jno. Harvie,  
Francis Lightfoot Lee.

---

*On the part and behalf of the state of North-Carolina.*

John Penn, July 21, 1778,  
Corns. Harnett,

Jno. Williams.

*On the part and behalf of the state of South-Carolina.*

Henry Laurens,  
William Henry Drayton,  
Jno. Mathews,

Richard Hutson,  
Thos. Heywood, jun.

*On the part and behalf of the state of Georgia.*

Jno. Walton, 24th July, 1778.  
Edwd. Telfair,

Edwd. Langworthy.

[NOTE—From the circumstance of delegates from the same state having signed the articles of confederation at different times, as appears by the dates, it is probable they affixed their names as they happened to be present in congress, after they had been authorized by their constituents.]

[The above articles of confederation continued in force until the 4th day of March, 1789, when the constitution of the United States took effect.]









*George Washington*



MOUNT VERNON



# CONSTITUTION OF THE UNITED STATES.

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## PREAMBLE.

WE, the people of the United States, in order to form a more perfect union, establish justice, insure domestic tranquillity, provide for the common defense, promote the general welfare, and secure the blessings of liberty to ourselves and our posterity, do ordain and establish this Constitution for the United States of America.

## ARTICLE I.

### *Of the Legislature.*

#### SECTION I.

1. All legislative powers herein granted, shall be vested in a Congress of the United States, which shall consist of a Senate and House of Representatives.

## SECTION II.

1. The House of Representatives shall be composed of members chosen every second year by the people of the several states; and the electors in each state shall have the qualifications requisite for electors of the most numerous branch of the state legislature.

2. No person shall be a representative who shall not have attained to the age of twenty-five years, and been seven years a citizen of the United States, and who shall not, when elected, be an inhabitant of that state in which he shall be chosen.

3. Representatives and direct taxes shall be apportioned among the several states which may be included within this union, according to their respective numbers, which shall be determined by adding to the whole number of free persons, including those bound to service for a term of years, and excluding Indians not taxed, three-fifths of all other persons. The actual enumeration shall be made within three years after the first meeting of the Congress of the United States, and within every subsequent term of ten years, in such manner as they shall by law direct. The number of representatives shall not exceed one for every thirty thousand, but each state shall have at least one representative; and until such enumeration shall be made, the state of *New Hampshire* shall be entitled to choose three; *Massachusetts* eight; *Rhode Island* and *Providence Plantations* one; *Connecticut* five; *New York* six; *New Jersey* four; *Pennsylvania* eight; *Delaware* one; *Maryland* six; *Virginia* ten; *North Carolina* five; *South Carolina* five; and *Georgia* three.

4. When vacancies happen in the representation from any state, the executive authority thereof shall issue writs of election to fill up such vacancies.

5. The House of Representatives shall choose their speaker and other officers, and shall have the sole power of impeachment.

## SECTION III.

1. The Senate of the United States shall be composed of two senators from each state, chosen by the legislature thereof, for six years, and each senator shall have one vote.

2. Immediately after they shall be assembled in consequence of the first election, they shall be divided, as equally as may be, into three classes. The seats of the senators of the first class shall be vacated at the expiration of the second year, of the second class at the expiration of the fourth, and of the third class at the expiration of the sixth year, so that one-third may be chosen every second year; and if vacancies happen, by resignation or otherwise, during the recess of the legislature of any state, the executive thereof may make temporary appointments until the next meeting of the legislature, which shall then fill such vacancies.

3. No person shall be a senator who shall not have attained to the age of thirty years, and been nine years a citizen of the United



States, and who shall not, when elected, be an inhabitant of that state for which he shall be chosen.

4. The Vice President of the United States shall be President of the Senate, but shall have no vote, unless they be equally divided.

5. The Senate shall choose their other officers, and also a president pro tempore, in the absence of the Vice President, or when he shall exercise the office of President of the United States.

6. The Senate shall have the sole power to try all impeachments. When sitting for that purpose, they shall be on oath or affirmation. When the President of the United States is tried, the chief justice shall preside; and no person shall be convicted without the concurrence of two-thirds of the members present.

7. Judgment in case of impeachment shall not extend further than to removal from office, and disqualification to hold and enjoy any office of honor, trust, or profit, under the United States; but the party convicted shall, nevertheless, be liable and subject to indictment, trial, judgment, and punishment according to law.

#### SECTION IV.

1. The times, places, and manner of holding elections for senators and representatives, shall be prescribed in each state by the legislature thereof; but the Congress may at any time, by law, make or alter such regulations, except as to the place of choosing senators.

2. The Congress shall assemble at least once in every year, and such meeting shall be on the first Monday in December, unless they shall by law appoint a different day.

#### SECTION V.

1. Each House shall be the judge of the elections, returns, and qualifications of its own members; and a majority of each shall constitute a quorum to do business; but a smaller number may adjourn from day to day, and may be authorized to compel the attendance of absent members, in such manner and under such penalties as each House may provide.

2. Each House may determine the rule of its proceedings, punish its members for disorderly behaviour, and, with the concurrence of two-thirds, expel a member.

3. Each House shall keep a journal of its proceedings, and from time to time publish the same, excepting such parts as may in their judgment require secrecy; and the yeas and nays of the members of either House, on any question, shall, at the desire of one-fifth of those present, be entered on the journal.

4. Neither House during the session of Congress shall, without the consent of the other, adjourn for more than three days, nor to any other place than that in which the two Houses shall be sitting.

## SECTION VI.

1. The senators and representatives shall receive a compensation for their services, to be ascertained by law, and paid out of the treasury of the United States. They shall in all cases, except treason, felony, and breach of the peace, be privileged from arrest during their attendance at the session of their respective Houses, and in going to or returning from the same; and for any speech or debate in either House, they shall not be questioned in any other place.

2. No senator or representative shall, during the time for which he was elected, be appointed to any civil office under the authority of the United States, which shall have been created, or the emoluments whereof shall have been increased, during such time; and no person holding any office under the United States shall be a member of either House during his continuance in office.

## SECTION VII.

1. All bills for raising revenue shall originate in the House of Representatives; but the Senate may propose or concur with amendments, as on other bills.

2. Every bill which shall have passed the House of Representatives and the Senate shall, before it become a law, be presented to the President of the United States; if he approve, he shall sign it; but if not, he shall return it, with his objections, to that House in which it shall have originated, who shall enter the objection at large on their journal, and proceed to reconsider it. If, after such reconsideration, two-thirds of that House shall agree to pass the bill, it shall be sent, together with the objections, to the other House, by which it shall likewise be reconsidered, and if approved by two-thirds of that House, it shall become a law. But in all such cases the votes of both Houses shall be determined by yeas and nays, and the names of the persons voting for and against the bill shall be entered on the journal of each House respectively. If any bill shall not be returned by the President within ten days (Sundays excepted) after it shall have been presented to him, the same shall be a law in like manner as if he had signed it, unless the Congress by their adjournment prevent its return, in which case it shall not be a law.

3. Every order, resolution, or vote to which the concurrence of the Senate and House of Representatives may be necessary, (except a question of adjournment,) shall be presented to the President of the United States; and before the same shall take effect, shall be approved by him, or being disapproved by him, shall be re-passed by two-thirds of the Senate and House of Representatives, according to the rules and limitations prescribed in the case of a bill.

## SECTION VIII.

The Congress shall have power—

1. To lay and collect taxes, duties, imposts, and excises, to pay



the debts and provide for the common defense and general welfare of the United States ; but all duties, imposts, and excises shall be uniform throughout the United States :

2. To borrow money on the credit of the United States :

3. To regulate commerce with foreign nations, and among the several states, and with the Indian tribes :

4. To establish a uniform rule of naturalization, and uniform laws on the subject of bankruptcies, throughout the United States :

5. To coin money, regulate the value thereof, and of foreign coin, and fix the standard of weights and measures :

6. To provide for the punishment of counterfeiting the securities and current coin of the United States :

7. To establish post offices and post roads :

8. To promote the progress of science and useful arts, by securing for limited times to authors and inventors the exclusive right to their respective writings and discoveries :

9. To constitute tribunals inferior to the Supreme Court :

10. To define and punish piracies and felonies committed on the high seas, and offences against the law of nations :

11. To declare war, grant letters of marque and reprisal, and make rules concerning captures on land and water :

12. To raise and support armies ; but no appropriation of money to that use shall be for a longer term than two years :

13. To provide and maintain a navy :

14. To make rules for the government and regulation of the land and naval forces :

15. To provide for calling forth the militia to execute the laws of the Union, suppress insurrections, and repel invasions :

16. To provide for organizing, arming, and disciplining the militia, and for governing such part of them as may be employed in the service of the United States, reserving to the states respectively the appointment of the officers and the authority of training the militia according to the discipline prescribed by Congress :

17. To exercise exclusive legislation, in all cases whatsoever, over such district (not exceeding ten miles square,) as may, by cession of particular states and the acceptance of Congress, become the seat of government of the United States, and to exercise like authority over all places purchased, by the consent of the legislature of the state in which the same shall be, for the erection of forts, magazines, arsenals, dock-yards, and other needful buildings : and,

18. To make all laws which shall be necessary and proper for carrying into execution the foregoing powers, and all other powers vested by this Constitution in the government of the United States, or any department or officer thereof.

#### SECTION IX.

1. The migration or importation of such persons as any of the states now existing shall think proper to admit, shall not be pro-



hibited by the Congress prior to the year one thousand eight hundred and eight, but a tax or duty may be imposed on such importation, not exceeding ten dollars for each person.

2. The privilege of the writ of habeas corpus shall not be suspended unless when, in case of rebellion or invasion, the public safety may require it.

3. No bill of attainder, or ex-post-facto law, shall be passed.

4. No capitation or other direct tax shall be laid, unless in proportion to the census or enumeration hereinbefore directed to be taken.

5. No tax or duty shall be laid on articles exported from any state. No preference shall be given by any regulation of commerce or revenue to the ports of one state over those of another ; nor shall vessels bound to or from one state be obliged to enter, clear, or pay duties in another.

6. No money shall be drawn from the treasury but in consequence of appropriations made by law ; and a regular statement and account of the receipts and expenditures of all public money shall be published from time to time.

7. No title of nobility shall be granted by the United States, and no person holding any office of profit or trust under them shall, without the consent of Congress, accept of any present, emolument, office, or title of any kind whatever, from any king, prince, or foreign state.

#### SECTION X.

1. No state shall enter into any treaty, alliance, or confederation ; grant letters of marque and reprisal ; coin money ; emit bills of credit ; make anything but gold and silver coin a tender in payment of debts ; pass any bill of attainder, ex-post-facto law, or law impairing the obligation of contracts ; or grant any title of nobility.

2. No state shall, without the consent of Congress, lay any imposts or duties on imports or exports, except what may be absolutely necessary for executing its inspection laws ; and the net produce of all duties and imposts laid by any state on imports or exports shall be for the use of the treasury of the United States, and all such laws shall be subject to the revision and control of Congress. No state shall, without the consent of Congress, lay any duty on tonnage, keep troops or ships of war in time of peace, enter into any agreement or compact with another state, or with a foreign power, or engage in war, unless actually invaded, or in such imminent danger as will not admit of delay.

### ARTICLE II.

#### *Of the Executive.*

##### SECTION I.

1. The executive power shall be vested in a President of the United States of America. He shall hold his office during the

term of four years, and, together with the Vice President, chosen for the same term, be elected as follows:—

2. Each state shall appoint, in such manner as the legislature thereof may direct, a number of electors, equal to the whole number of senators and representatives to which the state may be entitled in Congress; but no senator or representative, or person holding any office of trust or profit under the United States, shall be appointed an elector.

3. The electors shall meet in their respective states, and vote by ballot for two persons, of whom one at least shall not be an inhabitant of the same state with themselves. And they shall make a list of all the persons voted for, and of the number of votes for each; which list they shall sign and certify, and transmit sealed to the seat of the government of the United States, directed to the President of the Senate. The President of the Senate shall, in the presence of the Senate and House of Representatives, open all the certificates, and the votes shall then be counted. The person having the greatest number of votes shall be the President, if such number be a majority of the whole number of electors appointed; and if there be more than one who have such a majority, and have an equal number of votes, then the House of Representatives shall immediately choose by ballot one of them for President; and if no person have a majority, then, from the five highest on the list, the said House shall in like manner choose the President. But in choosing the President, the votes shall be taken by states; the representation from each state having one vote; a quorum for this purpose shall consist of a member or members from two-thirds of the states, and a majority of all the states shall be necessary to a choice. In every case, after the choice of the President, the person having the greatest number of votes of the electors shall be Vice President. But if there should remain two or more who have equal votes, the Senate shall choose from them by ballot the Vice President.

4. The Congress may determine the time of choosing the electors and the day on which they shall give their votes, which day shall be the same throughout the United States.

5. No person except a natural-born citizen, or a citizen of the United States at the time of the adoption of this Constitution, shall be eligible to the office of President; neither shall any person be eligible to that office who shall not have attained to the age of thirty-five years, and been fourteen years a resident within the United States.

6. In case of the removal of the President from office, or of his death, resignation, or inability to discharge the powers and duties of the said office, the same shall devolve on the Vice President; and the Congress may by law provide for the case of removal, death, resignation, or inability, both of the President and Vice President, declaring what officer shall then act as President: and such officer



shall act accordingly, until the disability be removed or a President shall be elected.

7. The President shall, at stated times, receive for his services a compensation, which shall neither be increased nor diminished during the period for which he shall have been elected, and he shall not receive within that period any other emolument from the United States, or any of them.

8. Before he enter on the execution of his office, he shall take the following oath or affirmation :

“I do solemnly swear (or affirm) that I will faithfully execute the office of President of the United States, and will, to the best of my ability, preserve, protect, and defend the Constitution of the United States.”

#### SECTION II.

1. The President shall be commander-in-chief of the army and navy of the United States and of the militia of the several states, when called into the actual service of the United States ; he may require the opinion in writing of the principal officer in each of the executive departments, upon any subject relating to the duties of their respective offices ; and he shall have power to grant reprieves and pardons for offences against the United States, except in cases of impeachment.

2. He shall have power, by and with the advice and consent of the Senate, to make treaties, provided two-thirds of the senators present concur : and he shall nominate, and by and with the advice and consent of the Senate, shall appoint ambassadors, other public ministers and consuls, judges of the Supreme Court, and all other officers of the United States, whose appointments are not herein otherwise provided for, and which shall be established by law. But the Congress may by law vest the appointment of such inferior officers as they think proper in the President alone, in the courts of law, or in the heads of departments.

3. The President shall have power to fill up all vacancies that may happen during the recess of the Senate, by granting commissions, which shall expire at the end of their next session.

#### SECTION III.

1. He shall, from time to time, give to Congress information of the state of the Union, and recommend to their consideration such measures as he shall judge necessary and expedient ; he may, on extraordinary occasions, convene both Houses, or either of them ; and in case of disagreement between them, with respect to the time of adjournment, he may adjourn them to such time as he shall think proper ; he shall receive ambassadors and other public ministers ; he shall take care that the laws be faithfully executed ; and shall commission all the officers of the United States.



## SECTION IV.

1. The President, Vice President, and all civil officers of the United States, shall be removed from office on impeachment for and conviction of treason, bribery, or other high crimes and misdemeanors.

## ARTICLE III.

*Of the Judiciary.*

## SECTION I.

1. The judicial power of the United States shall be vested in one Supreme Court, and in such inferior courts as Congress may, from time to time order and establish. The judges, both of the Supreme and inferior courts, shall hold their offices during good behaviour; and shall, at stated times, receive for their services a compensation, which shall not be diminished during their continuance in office.

## SECTION II.

1. The judicial power shall extend to all cases in law and equity arising under this Constitution, the laws of the United States, and treaties made, or which shall be made, under their authority; to all cases affecting ambassadors, other public ministers, and consuls; to all cases of admiralty and maritime jurisdiction; to controversies to which the United States shall be a party; to controversies between two or more states; between a state and citizens of another state; between citizens of different states; between citizens of the same state claiming lands under grants of different states; and between a state, or the citizens thereof and foreign states, citizens or subjects.

2. In all cases affecting ambassadors, other public ministers, and consuls, and those in which a state shall be a party, the Supreme Court shall have original jurisdiction. In all the other cases before mentioned, the Supreme Court shall have appellate jurisdiction, both as to law and fact, with such exceptions, and under such regulations as Congress shall make.

3. The trial of all crimes, except in cases of impeachment, shall be by jury, and such trial shall be held in the state where the said crimes shall have been committed; but when not committed within any state, the trial shall be at such place or places as Congress may by law have directed.

## SECTION III.

1. Treason against the United States shall consist only in levying war against them, or in adhering to their enemies, giving them aid and comfort. No person shall be convicted of treason, unless on the testimony of two witnesses to the same overt act, or confession in open court.

2. Congress shall have power to declare the punishment of treason; but no attainder of treason shall work corruption of blood, or forfeiture, except during the life of the person attainted.

## ARTICLE IV.

*Miscellaneous.*

## SECTION I.

1. Full faith and credit shall be given in each state to the public acts, records, and judicial proceedings of every other state. And Congress may, by general laws, prescribe the manner in which such acts, records, and proceedings shall be proved, and the effect thereof.

## SECTION II.

1. The citizens of each state shall be entitled to all the privileges and immunities of citizens in the several states.

2. A person charged in any state with treason, felony, or other crime, who shall flee from justice and be found in another state, shall, on demand of the executive authority of the state from which he fled, be delivered up, to be removed to the state having jurisdiction of the crime.

3. No person held to service or labor in one state, under the laws thereof, escaping into another, shall, in consequence of any law or regulation therein, be discharged from such service or labor; but shall be delivered up on claim of the party to whom such service or labor may be due.

## SECTION III.

1. New states may be admitted by Congress into this union; but no new state shall be formed or erected within the jurisdiction of any other state, nor any state be formed by the junction of two or more states, or parts of states, without the consent of the legislatures of the states concerned, as well as of Congress.

2. Congress shall have power to dispose of, and make all needful rules and regulations respecting the territory, or other property belonging to the United States; and nothing in this Constitution shall be so construed as to prejudice any claims of the United States or of any particular state.

## SECTION IV.

1. The United States shall guarantee to every state in this union a republican form of government, and shall protect each of them against invasion; and, on application of the legislature, or of the executive (when the legislature cannot be convened), against domestic violence.

## ARTICLE V.

*Of Amendments.*

1. Congress, whenever two-thirds of both Houses shall deem it necessary, shall propose amendments to this Constitution; or, on the



application of the legislatures of two-thirds of the several states, shall call a convention for proposing amendments, which, in either case, shall be valid to all intents and purposes, as part of this Constitution, when ratified by the legislatures of three-fourths of the several states, or by conventions in three-fourths thereof, as the one or the other mode of ratification may be proposed by Congress; provided, that no amendment which may be made prior to the year one thousand eight hundred and eight, shall in any manner affect the first and fourth clauses in the ninth section of the first article; and that no state, without its consent, shall be deprived of its equal suffrage in the Senate.

## ARTICLE VI.

### *Miscellaneous.*

1. All debts contracted and engagements entered into, before the adoption of this Constitution, shall be as valid against the United States under this Constitution, as under the confederation.

2. This Constitution, and the laws of the United States which shall be made in pursuance thereof, and all treaties made, or which shall be made, under the authority of the United States, shall be the supreme law of the land; and the judges in every state shall be bound thereby, anything in the constitution or laws of any state to the contrary notwithstanding.

3. The senators and representatives before mentioned, and the members of the several state legislatures, and all executive and judicial officers, both of the United States and of the several states, shall be bound by oath or affirmation to support this Constitution; but no religious test shall ever be required as a qualification to any office, or public trust, under the United States.

## ARTICLE VII.

### *Of the Ratification.*

1. The ratification of the conventions of nine states shall be sufficient for the establishment of this Constitution between the states so ratifying the same.

Done in Convention, by the unanimous consent of the states present, the seventeenth day of September, in the year of our Lord one thousand seven hundred and eighty-seven, and of the Independence of the United States of America the twelfth. In witness whereof, we have hereunto subscribed our names.

GEORGE WASHINGTON.  
*President, and Deputy from Virginia.*



## NEW HAMPSHIRE.

John Langdon,  
Nicholas Gilman.

## MASSACHUSETTS.

Nathaniel Gorman,  
Rufus King.

## CONNECTICUT.

William Samuel Johnson,  
Roger Sherman.

## NEW YORK.

Alexander Hamilton.

## NEW JERSEY.

William Livingston,  
David Brearly,  
William Patterson,  
Jonathan Dayton.

## PENNSYLVANIA.

Benjamin Franklin,  
Thomas Mifflin,  
Robert Morris,  
George Clymer,  
Thomas Fitzsimons,  
Jared Ingersoll,  
James Wilson,  
Gouverneur Morris.

*Attest,*

## DELAWARE.

George Read,  
Gunning Bedford, jun.,  
John Dickinson,  
Richard Bassett,  
Jacob Broom.

## MARYLAND.

James M'Henry,  
Daniel of St. Tho. Jenifer,  
Daniel Carroll.

## VIRGINIA.

John Blair,  
James Madison, jr.

## NORTH CAROLINA.

William Blount.  
Richard Dobbs Spaight,  
Hugh Williamson.

## SOUTH CAROLINA.

John Rutledge,  
Chas. Cotesworth Pinckney,  
Charles Pinckney,  
Pierce Butler.

## GEORGIA.

William Few,  
Abraham Baldwin.

WILLIAM JACKSON, *Secretary.*

## AMENDMENTS TO THE CONSTITUTION.

ART. 1. Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof; or abridging the freedom of speech, or of the press; or the right of the people peaceably to assemble, and to petition the government for a redress of grievances.

Art. 2. A well-regulated militia being necessary to the security of a free state, the right of the people to keep and bear arms shall not be infringed.

Art. 3. No soldier shall, in time of peace, be quartered in any house without the consent of the owner; nor in time of war, but in a manner to be prescribed by law.

Art. 4. The right of the people to be secure in their persons, houses, papers, and effects, against unreasonable searches and seizures, shall not be violated ; and no warrants shall issue but upon probable cause, supported by oath or affirmation, and particularly describing the place to be searched, and the persons or things to be seized.

Art. 5. No person shall be held to answer for a capital or otherwise infamous crime, unless on a presentment or indictment of a grand jury, except in cases arising in the land or naval forces, or in the militia when in actual service in time of war, or public danger ; nor shall any person be subject for the same offence, to be put twice in jeopardy of life or limb ; nor shall be compelled, in any criminal case, to be witness against himself ; nor be deprived of life, liberty, or property, without due process of law ; nor shall private property be taken for public use without just compensation.

Art. 6. In all criminal prosecutions, the accused shall enjoy the right to a speedy and public trial, by an impartial jury of the state and district wherein the crime shall have been committed, which district shall have been previously ascertained by law, and to be informed of the nature and cause of the accusation ; to be confronted with the witnesses against him ; to have compulsory process for obtaining witnesses in his favor ; and to have the assistance of counsel for his defense.

Art. 7. In suits at common law, where the value in controversy shall exceed twenty dollars, the right of trial by jury shall be preserved ; and no fact tried by jury shall be otherwise re-examined in any court of the United States than according to the rules of the common law.

Art. 8. Excessive bail shall not be required, nor excessive fines imposed, nor cruel and unusual punishments inflicted.

Art. 9. The enumeration in the Constitution of certain rights, shall not be construed to deny or disparage others retained by the people.

Art. 10. The powers not delegated to the United States by the Constitution, nor prohibited by it to the states, are reserved to the states respectively, or to the people.

Art. 11. The judicial power of the United States shall not be construed to extend to any suit in law or equity commenced or prosecuted against one of the United States by citizens of another state, or by citizens or subjects of another state, or by citizens or subjects of any foreign state.

Art. 12. § 1. The electors shall meet in their respective states, and vote by ballot for President and Vice President, one of whom, at least, shall not be an inhabitant of the same state with themselves ; they shall name in their ballots the person voted for as President, and in distinct ballots the person voted for as Vice President ; and they shall make distinct lists of all persons voted for as President, and of all persons voted for as Vice President, and of the number

of votes for each, which list they shall sign and certify, and transmit sealed to the seat of government of the United States, directed to the President of the Senate: the President of the Senate shall, in the presence of the Senate and House of Representatives, open all the certificates, and the votes shall then be counted; the person having the greatest number of votes for President shall be the President, if such number be a majority of the whole number of electors appointed; and if no person have such a majority, then from the persons having the highest numbers, not exceeding three, on the list of those voted for as President, the House of Representatives shall choose immediately by ballot the President. But in choosing the President, the votes shall be taken by states, the representation from each state having one vote; a quorum for this purpose shall consist of a member or members from two thirds of the states, and a majority of all the states shall be necessary to a choice. And if the House of Representatives shall not choose a President whenever the right of choice shall devolve upon them, before the fourth day of March next following, then the Vice President shall act as President, as in the case of the death or other constitutional disability of the President.

2. The person having the greatest number of votes as Vice President, shall be the Vice President, if such number be a majority of the whole number of electors appointed; and if no person have a majority, then from the two highest numbers on the list, the Senate shall choose the Vice President: a quorum for the purpose shall consist of two-thirds of the whole number of senators, and a majority of the whole number shall be necessary to a choice.

3. But no person constitutionally ineligible to the office of President shall be eligible to that of Vice President of the United States.

NOTE.—At the fourth presidential election, Thomas Jefferson and Aaron Burr were the democratic candidates for President and Vice President. By the electoral returns they had an even number of votes. In the House of Representatives, Burr, by intrigue, got up a party to vote for him for President; and the House was so divided that there was a tie. A contest was carried on for several days, and so warmly, that even sick members were brought to the House on their beds. Finally one of Burr's adherents withdrew, and Jefferson was elected by *one* majority—which was the occasion of this *twelfth* article.



## MAINE.



THE first settlement in Maine was made in Bristol, on the east side of the Damariscotta River, at Pemaquid Point. This State was originally granted by James I. to the Plymouth Company, by whom it was transferred to Mason and Gorges, in 1624. The territory was afterwards purchased by Massachusetts for £1,250, who obtained a confirmation of the charter in 1691. This State, formerly the District of Maine, became independent of Massachusetts in 1820, and adopted its Constitution.

Area of Maine, 28,920 square miles—3000 sq. m. having been taken from it by the treaty at Washington, by which the boundary between the United States and Great Britain was settled. Population, in 1850, 583,088.

## CONSTITUTION.

WE the people of Maine, in order to establish justice, ensure tranquillity, provide for our mutual defense, promote our common welfare, and secure to ourselves and our posterity the blessings of liberty, acknowledging, with grateful hearts, the goodness of the Sovereign Ruler of the Universe in affording us an opportunity so favorable to the design; and imploring his aid and direction in its accomplishment, do agree to form ourselves into a free and independent State, by the style and title of the State of Maine, and do ordain and establish the following Constitution for the government of the same:

## ARTICLE I.

*Declaration of Rights.*

SEC. 1. All men are born equally free and independent, and have certain natural, inherent, and unalienable rights, among which are those of enjoying and defending life and liberty, acquiring, possessing, and protecting property, and of pursuing and obtaining safety and happiness.

2. All power is inherent in the people: all free governments are founded in their authority, and instituted for their benefit: they have, therefore, an inalienable and indefeasible right to institute government, and to alter, reform, or totally change the same, when their safety and happiness require it.

3. All men have a natural and inalienable right to worship Almighty God according to the dictates of their own consciences, and no one shall be hurt, molested, or restrained in his person, liberty, or estate, for worshiping God in the manner and season most agreeable to the dictates of his own conscience, nor for his religious professions or sentiments, provided he does not disturb the public peace, nor obstruct others in their religious worship;—and all persons demeaning themselves peaceably, as good members of the State, shall be equally under the protection of the laws, and no subordination nor preference, of any one sect or denomination to another, shall ever be established by law, nor shall any religious test be required as a qualification for any office or trust under this State; and all religious societies in this State, whether incorporate or unincorporate, shall at all times have the exclusive right of electing their public teachers, and contracting with them for their support and maintenance.

4. Every citizen may freely speak, write, and publish his sentiments on any subject, being responsible for the abuse of this liberty. No laws shall be passed regulating or restraining the freedom of the press; and, in prosecutions for any publication respecting the official conduct of men in public capacity, or the qualifications of those who are candidates for the suffrages of the people, or where the matter published is proper for public information, the truth thereof may be given in evidence; and in all indictments for libels, the jury, after having received the direction of the court, shall have a right to determine, at their discretion, the law and the fact.

5. The people shall be secure in their persons, houses, papers, and possessions from unreasonable searches and seizures; and no warrant to search any place, or seize any person or thing, shall issue without a special designation of the place to be searched, and the person or thing to be seized, nor without probable cause, supported by oath or affirmation.

6. In all criminal prosecutions, the accused shall have a right to be heard by himself and his counsel, or either, at his election: to



demand the nature and cause of the accusation, and have a copy thereof :

To be confronted by the witnesses against him :

To have compulsory process for obtaining witnesses in his favor :

To have a speedy, public, and impartial trial ; and, except in trials by martial law or impeachment, by a jury of the vicinity. He shall not be compelled to furnish or give evidence against himself, nor be deprived of his life, liberty, property, or privileges, but by judgment of his peers, or the law of the land.

7. No person shall be held to answer for a capital or infamous crime, unless on a presentment or indictment of a grand jury, except in cases of impeachment, or in such cases of offencess as are usually cognizable by a justice of the peace, or in cases arising in the army or navy, or in the militia when in actual service, in time of war or public danger. The Legislature shall provide by law a suitable and impartial mode of selecting juries ; and their usual number and unanimity, in indictments and convictions, shall be held indispensable.

8. No person for the same offence shall be twice put in jeopardy of life or limb.

9. Sanguinary laws shall not be passed ; all penalties and punishments shall be proportioned to the offence ; excessive bail shall not be required, nor excessive fines imposed, nor cruel nor unusual punishments inflicted.

10. All persons, before conviction, shall be bailable except for capital offences, where the proof is evident, or the presumption great ; and the privilege of the writ of *habeas corpus* shall not be suspended, unless when in cases of rebellion or invasion the public safety may require it.\*

11. The Legislature shall pass no bill of attainder, *ex post facto* law, nor law impairing the obligation of contracts, and no attainder shall work corruption of blood nor forfeiture of estate.

12. Treason against this State shall consist only in levying war against it, adhering to its enemies, giving them aid and comfort. No person shall be convicted of treason, unless on the testimony of two witnesses to the same overt act, or confession in open court.

13. The laws shall not be suspended, but by the Legislature or its authority.

14. No person shall be subject to corporal punishment under military law, except such as are employed in the army or navy, or in the militia when in actual service, in time of war, or public danger.

15. The people have a right, at all times, in an orderly and peaceable manner, to assemble and consult upon the common good, to give instructions to their representatives, and to request of either department of the government, by petition or remonstrance, redress of their wrongs and grievances.

16. Every citizen has a right to keep and bear arms for the common defense ; and this right shall never be questioned.

\* Modified. See Art. II. of Amendments.



17. No standing army shall be kept up in time of peace, without the consent of the Legislature; and the military shall, in all cases, and at all times, be in strict subordination to the civil power.

18. No soldier shall, in time of peace, be quartered in any house, without the consent of the owner or occupant, nor in time of war, but in a manner to be prescribed by law.

19. Every person, for an injury done him in his person, reputation, property, or immunities, shall have remedy by due course of law; and right and justice shall be administered freely and without sale, completely and without denial, promptly and without delay.

20. In all civil suits, and in all controversies concerning property, the parties shall have a right to a trial by jury, except in cases where it has heretofore been otherwise practised: the party claiming the right may be heard by himself and his counsel, or either, at his election.

21. Private property shall not be taken for public uses without just compensation; nor unless the public exigencies require it.

22. No tax or duty shall be imposed without the consent of the people, or their representatives in the Legislature.

23. No title of nobility or hereditary distinction, privilege, honor, or emolument, shall ever be granted or confirmed; nor shall any office be created, the appointment to which shall be for a longer time than during good behavior.

24. The enumeration of certain rights shall not impair nor deny others retained by the people.

## ARTICLE II.

### *Electors.*

SEC. 1. Every male citizen of the United States, of the age of twenty-one years and upwards, excepting paupers, persons under guardianship, and Indians not taxed, having his residence established in this State for the term of three months next preceding any election, shall be an elector for Governor, senators, and representatives, in the town or plantation where his residence is so established, and the elections shall be by written ballot. But persons in the military, naval, or marine service of the United States, or this State, shall not be considered as having obtained such established residence by being stationed in any garrison, barrack, or military place, in any town or plantation: nor shall the residence of a student at any seminary of learning entitle him to the right of suffrage in the town or plantation where such seminary is established.

2. Electors shall, in all cases except treason, felony, or breach of the peace, be privileged from arrest on the days of election, during their attendance at, going to, and returning therefrom.

3. No elector shall be obliged to do duty in the militia on any day of election, except in time of war or public danger.

4. The election of Governor, senators, and representatives shall be on the second Monday of September, annually, forever.

### ARTICLE III.

#### *Distribution of Powers.*

SEC. 1. The powers of this government shall be divided into three distinct departments, the *legislative, executive, and judicial*.

2. No person or persons, belonging to one of these departments, shall exercise any of the powers properly belonging to either of the others, except in the cases herein expressly directed or permitted.

### ARTICLE IV.

#### PART FIRST.—*Legislative Power—House of Representatives.*

SEC. 1. The legislative power shall be vested in two distinct branches: a House of Representatives and a Senate; each to have a negative on the other, and both to be styled the *Legislature of Maine*: and the style of their acts and laws shall be, "*Be it enacted, by the Senate and House of Representatives in Legislature assembled.*"

2. The House of Representatives shall consist of not less than one hundred, nor more than two hundred members, to be elected by the qualified electors for one year from the next day preceeding the annual meeting of the Legislature—which shall first be convened under this Constitution, shall, on or before the fifteenth day of August, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and twenty-one, and the Legislature within every subsequent period of at most ten years, and at least five, cause the number of the inhabitants of the State to be ascertained, exclusive of foreigners not naturalized, and Indians not taxed. The number of representatives shall, at the several periods of making such enumeration, be fixed and apportioned among the several counties, as near as may be, according to the number of inhabitants, having regard to the relative increase of population. The number of representatives shall, on said first apportionment, be not less than one hundred nor more than one hundred and fifty; and whenever the number of representatives shall be two hundred, at the next annual meetings of elections, which shall thereafter be had, and at every subsequent period of ten years, the people shall give in their votes whether the number of representatives shall be increased or diminished; and if a majority of votes are in favor thereof, it shall be the duty of the next Legislature thereafter to increase or diminish the number by the rule hereinafter prescribed.\*

3. Each town having fifteen hundred inhabitants may elect one representative; each town having three thousand seven hundred and fifty may elect two; each town having six thousand seven hundred and fifty may elect three; each town having ten thousand five

\* Altered. See Art. IV. of Amendments.



hundred may elect four; each town having fifteen thousand may elect five; each town having twenty thousand two hundred and fifty may elect six; each town having twenty-six thousand two hundred and fifty inhabitants may elect seven; but no town shall ever be entitled to more than seven representatives; and towns and plantations, duly organized, not having fifteen hundred inhabitants, shall be classed, as conveniently as may be, into districts, containing that number, and so as not to divide towns; and each such district may elect one representative; and when on this apportionment, the number of representatives shall be two hundred, a different apportionment shall take place upon the above principle; and, in case the fifteen hundred shall be too large or too small to apportion all the representatives to any county, it shall be so increased or diminished as to give the number of representatives according to the above rule and proportion; and whenever any town or towns, plantation or plantations, not entitled to elect a representative, shall determine against a classification with any other town or plantation, the Legislature may, at each apportionment of representatives, on the application of such town or plantation, authorize it to elect a representative for such portion of time, and such periods, as shall be equal to its portion of representation, and the right of representation, so established, shall not be altered until the next general apportionment.

4. No person shall be a member of the House of Representatives, unless he shall, at the commencement of the period for which he is elected, have been five years a citizen of the United States: having arrived at the age of twenty-one years; have been a resident in this State one year, or from the adoption of this Constitution; and, for the three months next preceding the time of his election, shall have been, and during the period for which he is elected, shall continue to be, a resident in the town or district which he represents.

5. The meetings for the choice of representatives shall be warned, in due course of law, by the selectmen of the several towns, seven days, at least, before the election; and the selectmen thereof shall preside impartially at such meetings, receive the votes of all the qualified electors present, sort, count, and declare them, in open town meeting, and in the presence of the town clerk, who shall form a list of the persons voted for, with the number of votes for each person against his name, shall make a fair record thereof in the presence of the selectmen, and in open town meeting; and a fair copy of this list shall be attested by the selectmen and town clerk, and delivered by said selectmen to each representative within ten days next after such election. And the towns and plantations, organized by law, belonging to any class herein provided, shall hold their meetings at the same time in the respective towns and plantations; and the town and plantation meetings in such towns and plantations, shall be notified, held, and regulated, the votes received, sorted, counted and declared, in the same manner. And the asses-



sors and clerks of plantations shall have all the powers, and be subject to all the duties, which selectmen and town clerks have, and are subject to, by this Constitution. And the selectmen of such towns, and the assessors of such plantations so classed, shall, within four days next after such meeting, meet at some place, to be prescribed and notified by the selectmen or assessors of the eldest town or plantation in such class, and the copies of said lists shall be then examined and compared; and, in case any person shall be elected by a majority of all the votes, the selectmen or assessors shall deliver the certified copies of such lists to the person so elected, within ten days next after such election; and the clerks of towns and plantations, respectively, shall seal up copies of all such lists, and cause them to be delivered into the secretary's office twenty days at least before the first Wednesday in January, annually; but, in case no person shall have a majority of votes, the selectmen and assessors shall as soon as may be, notify another meeting, and the same proceedings shall be at every future meeting until an election shall have been effected, provided, that the Legislature may, by law, prescribe a different mode of returning, examining, and ascertaining the election of the representatives in such classes.\*

6. Whenever the seat of a member shall be vacated, by death, resignation, or otherwise, the vacancy may be filled by a new election.

7. The House of Representatives shall choose their speaker, clerk, and other officers.

8. The House of Representatives shall have the sole power of impeachment.

#### PART SECOND.—*Senate.*

§ 1. The Senate shall consist of not less than twenty, nor more than thirty-one members; elected at the same time, and for the same term, as the representatives, by the qualified electors of the districts into which the State shall from time to time be divided.

2. The Legislature which shall be first convened under this Constitution shall, on or before the fifteenth day of August, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and twenty-one, and the Legislature at every subsequent period of ten years, cause the State to be divided into districts for the choice of senators. The district shall conform, as near as may be, to county lines, and be apportioned according to the number of inhabitants. The number of Senators shall not exceed twenty at the first apportionment, and shall, at each apportionment, be increased, until they shall amount to thirty-one, according to the increase in the House of Representatives.

3. The meetings for the election of senators shall be notified, held, and regulated, and the votes received, sorted, counted, declared, and recorded, in the same manner as those for representatives; and fair copies of the lists of votes shall be attested by the selectmen and town clerks of towns, and the assessors and clerks of plantations,

\* Altered. See Art. VII. of Amendments.

and sealed up in open town and plantation meetings, and the town and plantation clerks, respectively, shall cause the same to be delivered into the secretary's office thirty days at least before the first Wednesday of January. All other qualified electors, living in places unincorporated, who shall be assessed to the support of government by the assessors of an adjacent town, shall have the privilege of voting for senators, representatives, and governor, in such town, and shall be notified by the selectmen thereof, for the purpose accordingly.

4. The governor and council shall, as soon as may be, examine returned copies of such lists, and, twenty days before the said first Wednesday of January, issue a summons to such persons as shall appear to be elected by a majority of the votes in each district, to attend that day and take their seats.

5. The Senate shall, on the said first Wednesday of January, annually, determine who are elected by a majority of votes to be senators in each district; and, in case the full number of senators to be elected from each district shall not have been so elected, the members of the House of Representatives, and such senators as shall have been elected, shall, from the highest number of the persons voted for, on said lists, equal to twice the number of senators deficient, in every district if there be so many voted for, elect, by joint ballot, the number of senators required; and in this manner all vacancies in the Senate shall be supplied, as soon as may be after such vacancies happen.

6. The senators shall be twenty-five years of age at the commencement of the term for which they are elected, and in all other respects their qualifications shall be the same as those of the representatives.

7. The Senate shall have the sole power to try all impeachments; and, when sitting for that purpose, shall be on oath or affirmation; and no person shall be convicted without the concurrence of two-thirds of the members present. Their judgment, however, shall not extend further than to removal from office, and disqualification to hold or enjoy any office of honor, trust, or profit under this State; but the party, whether convicted or acquitted, shall, nevertheless, be liable to indictment, trial, judgment, and punishment, according to law.

8. The Senate shall choose their president, secretary, and other officers.

### PART THIRD.—*Legislative Power.*

SEC. 1. The Legislature shall convene on the first Wednesday of January, annually, and shall have full power to make and establish all reasonable laws and regulations for the defense and benefit of the people of this State, not repugnant to this Constitution, nor to that of the United States.

2. Every bill or resolution, having the force of law, to which the concurrence of both houses may be necessary, except on a question



of adjournment, which shall have passed both houses, shall be presented to the Governor, and if he approve, he shall sign it; if not, he shall return it, with his objections, to the house in which it shall have originated, who shall enter the objections at large on its journals, and proceed to reconsider it. If, after such reconsideration, two-thirds of that house shall agree to pass it, it shall be sent, together with the objections, to the other house, by which it shall be reconsidered; and, if approved by two-thirds of that house, it shall have the same effect as if it had been signed by the Governor; but, in all such cases, the votes of both houses shall be taken by yeas and nays, and the names of the persons voting for and against the bill or resolution, shall be entered on the journals of both houses respectively. If the bill or resolution shall not be returned by the Governor within five days (Sundays excepted) after it shall have been presented to him, it shall have the same force and effect as if he had signed it; unless the Legislature by their adjournment prevent its return, in which case it shall have such force and effect, unless returned within three days after their next meeting.

3. Each house shall be the judge of the elections and qualifications of its own members, and a majority shall constitute a quorum to do business; but a smaller number may adjourn from day to day, and may compel the attendance of absent members, in such manner and under such penalties as each house shall provide.

4. Each house may determine the rules of its proceedings, punish its members for disorderly behaviour, and, with the concurrence of two-thirds, expel a member, but not a second time for the same cause.

5. Each house shall keep a journal, and from time to time publish its proceedings, except such parts as, in their judgment, may require secrecy; and the yeas and nays of the members of either house, on any question, shall, at the desire of one-fifth of those present, be entered on the journals.

6. Each house, during its session, may punish, by imprisonment, any person, not a member, for disrespectful or disorderly behaviour in its presence; for obstructing any of its proceedings; threatening, assaulting, or abusing any of its members for anything said, done, or doing, in either house: Provided, that no imprisonment shall extend beyond the period of the same session.

7. The senators and representatives shall receive such compensation as shall be established by law; but no law increasing their compensation shall take effect during the existence of the Legislature which enacted it. The expenses of the members of the House of Representatives in traveling to the Legislature and returning therefrom, once in each session, and no more, shall be paid by the State, out of the public treasury, to every member who shall seasonably attend, in the judgment of the House, and does not depart therefrom without leave.

8 The senators and representatives shall, in all cases, except



treason, felony, or breach of the peace, be privileged from arrest during their attendance at, going to, and returning from each session of the Legislature, and no member shall be liable for anything spoken in debate in either house, in any court or place elsewhere.

9. Bills, orders, or resolutions may originate in either house, and may be altered, amended, or rejected in the other; but all bills for raising a revenue shall originate in the House of Representatives, but the Senate may propose amendments, as in other cases; provided, that they shall not, under color of amendment, introduce any new matter, which does not relate to raising a revenue.

10. No senator or representative shall, during the term for which he shall have been elected, be appointed to any civil office of profit under this State, which shall have been created, or the emoluments of which increased during such term, except such offices as may be filled by elections by the people: provided that this prohibition shall not extend to the members of the first Legislature.

11. No member of Congress, nor person holding any office under the United States (post officers excepted), nor office of profit under this State, justices of the peace, notaries public, coroners, and officers of the militia, excepted, shall have a seat in either house during his being such member of Congress, or his continuing in such office.

12. Neither house shall, during the session, without the consent of the other, adjourn for more than two days, nor to any other place than that in which the houses shall be sitting.

## ARTICLE V.

### PART FIRST.—*Executive Power.*

SEC. 1. The supreme executive power of this State shall be vested in a Governor.

2. The Governor shall be elected by the qualified electors, and shall hold his office one year, from the first Wednesday of January in each year.

3. The meetings for election of Governor shall be notified, held, and regulated, and votes shall be received, sorted, counted, declared and recorded, in the same manner as those for senators and representatives. They shall be sealed and returned into the Secretary's office in the same manner, and at the same time, as those for senators. And the Secretary of State for the time being shall, on the first Wednesday of January then next, lay the list before the Senate and House of Representatives, to be by them examined; and, in case of a choice by a majority of all the votes returned, they shall declare and publish the same. But if no person shall have a majority of votes, the House of Representatives shall, by ballot, from the persons having the four highest numbers of votes on the list, if so many there be, elect two persons, and make return of their names to the Senate, of whom the Senate shall, by ballot, elect one, who shall be declared the Governor.

4. The Governor shall, at the commencement of his term, be not less than thirty years of age; a natural born citizen of the United States; have been five years, or from the adoption of this Constitution, a resident of the State; and at the time of his election, and during the term for which he is elected, be a resident of said State.

5. No person holding any office or place under the United States, this State, or any other power, shall exercise the office of Governor.

6. The Governor shall, at stated times, receive for his services a compensation, which shall not be increased or diminished during his continuance in office.

7. He shall be commander-in-chief of the army and navy of the State, and of the militia, except when called into the actual service of the United States; but he shall not march nor convey any of the citizens out of the State without their consent, or that of the Legislature, unless it shall become necessary, in order to march or transport them from one part of the State to another, for the defense thereof.

8. He shall nominate, and, with the advice and consent of the council, appoint, all judicial officers, the attorney-general, the sheriff, coroners, registers of probate, and notaries public; and he shall also nominate, and with the advice and consent of the Council, appoint, all other civil and military officers whose appointment is not, by this Constitution or shall not by law, be otherwise provided for; and every such nomination shall be made seven days at least prior to such appointment.

9. He shall, from time to time, give the Legislature information of the condition of the State, and recommend to their consideration such measures as he may judge expedient.

10. He may require information from any military officer, or any officer in the executive department, upon any subject relating to the duties of their respective offices.

11. He shall have power, with the advice and consent of the Council, to remit, after conviction, all forfeitures and penalties, and grant reprieves and pardons, except in cases of impeachment.

12. He shall take care that the laws be faithfully executed.

13. He may, on extraordinary occasions, convene the Legislature; and, in case of disagreement between the two houses with respect to the time of adjournment, adjourn them to such time as he shall think proper, not beyond the day of the next annual meeting; and if, since their last adjournment, the place where the Legislature were next to convene, shall have become dangerous from an enemy, or contagious sickness, may direct the session to be held at some other convenient place within the State.

14. Whenever the office of Governor shall become vacant by death, resignation, removal from office, or otherwise, the President of the Senate, shall exercise the office of Governor until another Governor shall be duly qualified; and, in case of the death, resignation, removal from office, or other disqualification of the President of the Senate, so exercising the office of Governor, the Speaker of the



House of Representatives shall exercise the office, until a President of the Senate shall have been chosen ; and when the office of Governor, President of the Senate, and Speaker of the House shall become vacant, in the recess of the Senate, the person acting as Secretary of State for the time being shall, by proclamation, convene the Senate, that a President maybe chosen to exercise the office of Governor. And whenever either the President of the Senate or Speaker of the House shall so exercise said office, he shall receive only the compensation of Governor, but his duties as President or Speaker shall be suspended ; and the Senate or House shall fill the vacancy, until his duties as Governor shall cease.

PART SECOND.—*Council.*

SEC. 1. There shall be a Council, to consist of seven persons, citizens of the United States, and residents of this State, to advise the Governor in the executive part of the government, whom the Governor shall have full power, at his discretion, to assemble ; and he, with the counselors, or a majority of them, may, from time to time, hold and keep a council, for ordering and directing the affairs of State according to law.

2. The counselors shall be chosen annually, on the first Wednesday of January, by joint ballot of the senators and representatives in convention ; and vacancies which shall afterwards happen, shall be filled in the same manner ; but not more than one counselor shall be elected from any district prescribed for the election of senators ; and they shall be privileged from arrest in the same manner as senators and representatives.

3. The resolutions and advice of council shall be recorded in a register, and signed by the members agreeing thereto, which may be called for by either house of the Legislature ; and any counselor may enter his dissent to the resolution of the majority.

4. No member of Congress, or of the Legislature of this State, nor any person holding any office under the United States, (post officers excepted,) nor any civil officers under this State, (justices of the peace and notaries public excepted,) shall be counselors. And no counselor shall be appointed to any office during the time for which he shall have been elected.

PART THIRD.—*Secretary.*

SEC. 1. The Secretary of State shall be chosen annually, at the first session of the Legislature, by joint ballot of the senators and representatives in convention.

2. The records of the State shall be kept in the office of the Secretary, who may appoint his deputies, for whose conduct he shall be accountable.

3. He shall attend the Governor and Council, Senate and House of Representatives, in person, or by his deputies, as they shall respectively require.



4. He shall carefully keep and preserve the records of all the official acts and proceedings of the Governor and Council, Senate, and House of Representatives, and, when required, lay the same before either branch of the Legislature, and perform such other duties as are enjoined by this Constitution, or shall be acquired by law.

#### PART FOURTH.—*Treasurer.*

SEC. 1. The Treasurer shall be chosen annually, at the first session of the Legislature, by joint ballot of the senators and representatives in convention, but shall not be eligible more than five years successively.

2. The Treasurer shall, before entering on the duties of his office, give bond to the State, with sureties, to the satisfaction of the Legislature, for the faithful discharge of his trust.

3. The Treasurer shall not, during his continuance in office, engage in any business of trade or commerce, or as a broker, nor as an agent or factor for any merchant or trader.

4. No money shall be drawn from the treasury, but by warrant from the Governor and Council, and in consequence of appropriations made by law; and a regular statement and account of the receipts and expenditures of all public money shall be published at the commencement of the annual session of the Legislature.

### ARTICLE VI.

#### *Judicial Power.*

SEC. 1. The judicial power of this State shall be vested in a Supreme Judicial Court, and such other courts as the Legislature shall, from time to time, establish.

2. The justices of the Supreme Judicial Court shall, at stated times, receive a compensation, which shall not be diminished during their continuance in office, but they shall receive no other fee or reward.

3. They shall be obliged to give their opinion upon important questions of law, and upon solemn occasions, when required by the Governor, Council, Senate, or House of Representatives.

4. All judicial officers, except justices of the peace, shall hold their offices during good behavior, but not beyond the age of seventy years.\*

5. Justices of the peace and notaries public shall hold their offices during seven years, if they so long behave themselves well, at the expiration of which term, they may be re-appointed, or others appointed, as the public interest may require.

6. The justices of the Supreme Judicial Court shall hold no office under the United States, nor any state, nor any other office under this State, except that of justice of the peace.

\* Altered. See 3rd Article of Amendment.

## ARTICLE VII.

*Military.*

SEC. 1. The captains and subalterns of the militia shall be elected by the written votes of the members of their respective companies; the field-officers of regiments, by the written votes of the captains and subalterns of their respective regiments; the brigadier-generals, in like manner, by the field officers of their respective brigades.

2. The Legislature shall, by law, direct the manner of notifying the electors, conducting the elections, and making the returns to the Governor of the officers elected; and if the electors shall neglect or refuse to make such elections, after being duly notified according to law, the Governor shall appoint suitable persons to fill such offices.

3. The major-general shall be elected by the Senate and House of Representatives, each having a negative on the other. The adjutant-general and quartermaster-general shall be appointed by the Governor and Council; but the adjutant-general shall perform the duties of quartermaster-general, until otherwise directed by law. The major-generals and brigadier-generals, and the commanding officers of regiments and battalions, shall appoint their respective staff-officers; and all military officers shall be commissioned by the Governor.

4. The militia, as divided into divisions, brigades, regiments, battalions, and companies, pursuant to the laws now in force, shall remain so organized, until the same shall be altered by the Legislature.

5. Persons of the denomination of Quakers and Shakers, justices of the Supreme Judicial Court, and ministers of the gospel, may be exempted from military duty; but no other person, of the age of eighteen and under the age of forty-five years, excepting officers of the militia who have been honorably discharged, shall be so exempted, unless he shall pay an equivalent, to be fixed by law.

## ARTICLE VIII.

*Literature.*

A general diffusion of the advantages of education being essential to the preservation of the rights and liberties of the people: to promote this important object, the Legislature are authorized, and it shall be their duty, to require the several towns to make suitable provision, at their own expense, for the support and maintenance of public schools; and it shall further be their duty to encourage and suitably endow, from time to time, as the circumstances of the people may authorize, all academies, colleges, and seminaries of learning, within the State: provided, that no donation, grant, or endowment, shall at any time be made by the Legislature, to any literary institution now established, or which may hereafter be estab-



lished, unless at the time of making such endowment, the Legislature of the State shall have the right to grant any further powers to alter, limit, or restrain any of the powers vested in any such literary institution, as shall be judged necessary to promote the best interests thereof.

## ARTICLE IX.

### *General Provisions.*

SEC. 1. Every person elected or appointed to either of the places or offices provided in this Constitution, and every person elected, appointed, or commissioned, to any judicial, executive, military, or other office under this State, shall, before he enter on the discharge of the duties of his place or office, take and subscribe the following oath or affirmation: "I, ———, do swear, that I will support the Constitution of the United States and of this State, so long as I shall continue a citizen thereof. So help me God."

"I, ———, do swear, that I will faithfully discharge, to the best of my abilities, the duties incumbent on me as ———, according to the Constitution and the laws of the State: so help me God:" provided, that an affirmation in the above forms may be substituted, when the persons shall be conscientiously scrupulous of taking and subscribing an oath.

The oaths or affirmations shall be taken and subscribed by the Governor and counselors before the presiding officer of the Senate, in the presence of both houses of the Legislature, and by the senators and representatives before the Governor and Council, and by the residue of said officers before such person as shall be prescribed by the Legislature; and, whenever the Governor or any counsellor shall not be able to attend, during the session of the Legislature, to take and subscribe said oaths or affirmations, such oaths or affirmations may be taken and subscribed, in the recess of the Legislature, before any justice of the Supreme Judicial Court: provided, that the senators and representatives first elected under this Constitution shall take and subscribe such oaths or affirmations, before the President of the Convention.

2. No person holding the office of justice of the Supreme Judicial Court, or of any inferior court, attorney-general, county attorney, treasurer of the State, adjutant-general, judge of probate, register of probate, register of deeds, sheriffs or their deputies, clerks of the judicial courts, shall be a member of the Legislature; and any person holding either of the foregoing offices, elected to and accepting a seat in the Congress of the United States, shall thereby vacate said office; and no person shall be capable of holding or exercising, at the same time, within this State, more than one of the offices before mentioned.

3. All commissions shall be in the name of the State, signed by



the Governor, attested by the Secretary or his deputy, and have the seal of the State thereto affixed.

4. And in case the elections required by this Constitution on the first Wednesday of January, annually, by the two houses of the Legislature, shall not be completed on that day, the same may be adjourned from day to day until completed, in the following order: the vacancies in the Senate shall first be filled; the Governor shall then be elected, if there be no choice by the people; and, afterwards, the two houses shall elect the Council.

5. Every person holding any civil office under this State may be removed, by impeachment, for misdemeanor in office; and every person holding any office may be removed by the Governor, with the advice of the Council, on the address of both branches of the Legislature. But, before such address shall pass either house, the causes of removal shall be stated and entered on the journal of the house in which it originated, and a copy thereof served on the person in office, that he may be admitted to a hearing in his defense.

6. The tenure of all offices, which are not or shall not be otherwise provided for, shall be during the pleasure of the Governor and Council.

7. While the public expenses shall be assessed on polls and estates, a general valuation shall be taken at least once in ten years.

8. All taxes upon real estate, assessed by authority of this State, shall be apportioned and assessed equally, according to the just value thereof.

## ARTICLE X.

### *Schedule.*

SEC. 1. The first Legislature shall meet on the last Wednesday in May next. The elections on the second Monday in September, annually, shall not commence until the year one thousand eight hundred and twenty-one, and, in the meantime, the election for Governor, senators and representatives, shall be on the first Monday in April, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and twenty; and at this election the same proceedings shall be had as are required at the elections provided for in this Constitution, on the second Monday in September, annually, and the lists of the votes for the Governor and senators shall be transmitted by the town and plantation clerks, respectively, to the Secretary of State *pro tempore*, seventeen days at least before the last Wednesday in May next; and the President of the Convention shall, in presence of the Secretary of State, *pro tempore*, open and examine the attested copies of said lists, so returned for senators, and shall have all the powers, and be subject to all the duties in ascertaining, notifying, and summoning the senators who appear to be elected, as the Governor and Council have, and are subject to, by this Constitution provided, he shall notify said senators fourteen days at least before

the last Wednesday in May, and vacancies shall be ascertained and filled in the manner herein provided; and the senators to be elected on the said first Monday of April shall be apportioned as follows:

The county of York shall elect three; the county of Cumberland shall elect three; the county of Lincoln shall elect three; the county of Hancock shall elect two; the county of Washington shall elect one; the county of Kennebec shall elect three; the county of Oxford shall elect two; the county of Somerset shall elect two; the county of Penobscot shall elect one.

And the members of the House of Representatives shall be elected, ascertained, and returned in the same manner as herein provided at elections on the second Monday of September: and the first House of Representatives shall consist of the following number, to be elected as follows:

*County of York.*—The towns of York and Wells may each elect two representatives; and each of the remaining towns may elect one.

*County of Cumberland.*—The town of Portland may elect three representatives; North Yarmouth, two; Brunswick, two; Gorham, two; Freeport and Pownal, two; Raymond and Otisfield, one; Bridgton, Baldwin, and Harrison, one; Poland and Danville, one; and each remaining town, one.

*County of Lincoln.*—The towns of Georgetown and Phippsburg may elect one representative; Lewistown and Wales, one; St. George, Cushing, and Friendship, one; Hope and Appleton Ridge, one; Jefferson, Putnam, and Patricktown Plantation, one; Alba and Whitefield, one; Montville, Palermo, and Montville Plantation, one; Woolwich and Dresden, one; and each remaining town, one.

*County of Hancock.*—The town of Bucksport may elect one representative; Deer Island, one; Castine and Brooksville, one; Orland and Penobscot, one; Mount Desert and Eden, one; Vinalhaven and Isleborough, one; Sedgwick and Bluehill, one; Gouldsborough, Sullivan, and Plantations Nos. 8 and 9, north of Sullivan, one; Surry, Ellsworth, Trenton, and Plantation of Mariaville, one; Lincolnville, Searsmont, and Belmont, one; Belfast and Northport, one; Prospect and Swanville, one; Frankfort and Monroe, one; Knox, Brooks, Jackson, and Thorndike, one.

*County of Washington.*—The towns of Steuben, Cherryfield, and Harrington, may elect one representative; Addison, Columbia, and Jonesborough, one; Machias, one; Lubec, Dennysville, Plantations No. 9, No. 10, No. 11, No. 12, one; Eastport, one; Perry, Robinson, Calais, Plantations No. 3, No. 6, No. 7, No. 15, and No. 16, one.

*County of Kennebec.*—The towns of Belgrade and Dearborn may elect one representative; Chesterville, Vienna, and Rome, one; Wayne and Fayette, one; Temple and Wilton, one; Winslow and



China, one ; Fairfax and Freedom, one ; Unity, Joy, and Twenty-five Mile Pond Plantation, one ; Harlem and Malta, one ; and each remaining town, one.

*County of Oxford.*—The towns of Dixfield, Mexico, Wield, and Plantations Nos. 1 and 4, may elect one representative ; Jay and Hartford, one ; Livermore, one ; Rumford, East Andover, and Plantations Nos. 7 and 8, one ; Turner, one ; Woodstock, Paris, and Greenwood, one ; Hebron and Norway, one ; Gilead, Bethel, Newry, Albany, and Howard's Gore, one ; Porter, Hiram, and Brownfield, one ; Waterford, Sweden, and Lovell, one ; Denmark, Fryeburg, and Fryeburg Addition, one ; Buckfield and Sumner, one.

*County of Somerset.*—The town of Fairfield may elect one representative ; Norridgwock and Bloomfield, one ; Starks and Mercer, one ; Industry, Strong, and New Vineyard, one ; Avon, Phillips, Freeman, and Kingfield, one ; Anson, New Portland, Embden, and Plantation No. 1, one ; Canaan, Warsaw, Palmyra, St. Albans, and Corinna, one ; Madison, Solon, Bingham, Moscow, and Northhill, one ; Cornville, Athens, Harmony, Ripley, and Warrenstown, one.

*County of Penobscot.*—The towns of Hampden and Newburg may elect one representative ; Orrington, Brewer, and Eddington, and Plantations adjacent, on the east side of Penobscot River, one ; Bangor, Orono, and Sunkhaze Plantation, one ; Dixmont, Newport, Carmel, Hermon, Stetson, and Plantation No. 4, in the 6th range, one ; Levant, Corinth, Exeter, New Charlestown, Blakesburg, Plantation No. 1, in 3d range, and Plantation No. 1, in 4th range, one ; Dexter, Garland, Guilford, Sangerville, and Plantation No. 3, in 6th range, one ; Atkinson, Sebec, Foxcroft, Brownville, Williamsburgh, Plantation No. 1, in 7th range, and Plantation No. 3, in 7th range, one.

And the Secretary of State, *pro tempore*, shall have the same powers and be subject to the same duties, in relation to the votes for Governor, as the Secretary of State has, and is subject to, by this Constitution : and the election of Governor shall, on the said last Wednesday in May, be determined and declared in the same manner as other elections of Governor are by this Constitution ; and, in case of vacancy in said office, the President of the Senate, and Speaker of the House of Representatives, shall exercise the office as herein otherwise provided, and the counselors, Secretary, and Treasurer, shall also be elected on the said day, and have the same powers, and be subject to the same duties, as is provided in this Constitution ; and in case of the death or other disqualification of the President of this Convention, or of the Secretary of State *pro tempore*, before the election and qualification of the Governor, or Secretary of State, under this Constitution, the persons to be designated by this Convention, at their session in January next, shall have all the powers, and perform all the duties, which the President of this Convention, or the Secretary *pro tempore*, to be by them appointed, shall have and perform.



2. The period for which the governors, senators and representatives, counselors, Secretary, and Treasurer, first elected, or appointed, are to serve in their respective offices and places, shall commence on the last Wednesday in May, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and twenty, and continue until the first Wednesday of January, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and twenty-two.

3. All laws now in force in this State, and not repugnant to this Constitution, shall remain and be in force until altered or repealed by the Legislature, or shall expire by their own limitation.

4. The Legislature, whenever two-thirds of both houses shall deem it necessary, may propose amendments to this Constitution; and when any amendment shall be so agreed upon, a resolution shall be passed and sent to the selectmen of the several towns, and the assessors of the several plantations, empowering and directing them to notify the inhabitants of their respective towns and plantations, in the manner prescribed by law, at their next annual meetings in the month of September, to give in their votes on the question whether such amendment shall be made; and if it shall appear that a majority of the inhabitants voting on the question are in favor of such amendment, it shall become a part of this Constitution.

5. All officers provided for in the sixth section of an act of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, passed on the nineteenth day of June, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and nineteen, entitled, "An act relating to the separation of the District of Maine from Massachusetts proper, and forming the same into a separate and independent State," shall continue in office, as therein provided; and the following provisions of said act shall be a part of this Constitution: subject, however, to be modified, or annulled, as therein is prescribed, and not otherwise, to wit:

"Sect. 1. Whereas it has been represented in this Legislature, that a majority of the people of the District of Maine are desirous of establishing a separate and independent government within said district: Therefore,

"*Be it enacted, by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court assembled, and by the authority of the same, That the consent of this commonwealth be, and the same is hereby given, that the district of Maine may be formed and erected into a separate and independent State, if the people of the said district shall, in the manner and by the majority hereinafter mentioned, express their consent and agreement thereto, upon the following terms and conditions: and, provided the Congress of the United States shall give its consent thereto before the fourth day of March next; which terms and conditions are as follows, viz.:*

"*First.* All the lands and buildings belonging to the commonwealth within Massachusetts proper, shall continue to belong to said commonwealth; and all the lands belonging to the commonwealth within the district of Maine shall belong, the one half thereof to the

said commonwealth, and the other half thereof to the State to be formed within the said district, to be divided as is hereinafter mentioned; and the lands within the said district, which shall belong to the said commonwealth, shall be free from taxation while the title of the said lands remains in the commonwealth; and the rights of the commonwealth to their lands within said district, and the remedies for the recovery thereof, shall continue the same within the proposed State and in the courts thereof, as they now are within the said commonwealth and in the courts thereof; for which purposes, and for the maintenance of its rights and recovery of its lands, the said commonwealth shall be entitled to all other proper and legal remedies, and may appear in the courts of the proposed State, and in the courts of the United States holden therein; and all rights of action for, or entry into lands, and of action upon bonds, for the breach of the performance of the condition of settling duties, so called, which have accrued, or may accrue, shall remain in this commonwealth, to be enforced, commuted, released, or otherwise disposed of, in such manner as this commonwealth may hereafter determine: provided, however, that whatever this commonwealth may hereafter receive or obtain on account thereof, if any thing shall, after deducting all reasonable charges relating thereto, be divided, one-third part thereof to the new State, and two-third parts thereof to this commonwealth.

“*Second.* All the arms which have been received by this commonwealth from the United States, under the law of Congress, entitled, ‘An act making provision for arming and equipping the whole body of militia of the United States, passed April the twenty-third, one thousand eight hundred and eight,’ shall, as soon as the said district shall become a separate State, be divided between the two States, in proportion to the returns of the militia, according to which the said arms have been received from the United States, as aforesaid.

“*Third.* All money, stock or other proceeds, hereafter derived from the United States, on account of the claim of this commonwealth, for disbursements made, and expenses incurred, for the defence of the State during the late war with Great Britain, shall be received by this commonwealth; and when received, shall be divided between the two States, in the proportion of two thirds to this commonwealth, and one third to the new State.

“*Fourth.* All other property, of every description, belonging to the commonwealth, shall be holden and receivable by the same, as a fund and security for all debts, annuities, and Indian subsidies, or claims, due by said commonwealth; and within two years after the said district shall have become a separate State, the commissioners to be appointed, as hereinafter provided, if the said States cannot otherwise agree, shall assign a just portion of the productive property so held by said commonwealth, as an equivalent and indemnification to said commonwealth for all such debts, annuities, or Indian subsidies, or claims, which may remain due, or unsatisfied; and all



the surplus of the said property, so holden, as aforesaid, shall be divided between the said commonwealth and the said district of Maine, in the proportion of two-thirds to the said commonwealth and one-third to the said district; and if, in the judgment of the said commissioners, the whole of said property, so held, as a fund and security, shall not be sufficient indemnification for the purpose, the said district shall be liable for, and shall pay to said commonwealth, one-third of the deficiency.

“*Fifth.* The new State shall, as soon as the necessary arrangements can be made for that purpose, assume and perform all the duties and obligations of this commonwealth towards the Indians within said district of Maine, whether the same arise from treaties, or otherwise; and for this purpose shall obtain the assent of said Indians, and their release to this commonwealth of claims and stipulations arising under the treaty at present existing between the said commonwealth and said Indians: and, as indemnification to such new State therefor, this commonwealth, when such arrangements shall be completed, and the said duties and obligations assumed, shall pay to said new State the value of thirty thousand dollars, in manner following, viz.: The said commissioners shall set off, by metes and bounds, so much of any part of the land, within the said district, falling to this commonwealth, in the division of the public lands hereinafter provided for, as, in their estimation, shall be of the value of thirty thousand dollars; and this commonwealth shall, thereupon, assign the same to the said new State, or, in lieu thereof, may pay the sum of thirty thousand dollars, at its election; which election of the said commonwealth shall be made within one year from the time that notice of the doings of the commissioners, on this subject, shall be made known to the Governor and Council; and if not made within that time, the election shall be with the new State.

“*Sixth.* Commissioners, with the powers and for the purpose mentioned in this act, shall be appointed in manner following: The executive authority of each State shall appoint two; and the four so appointed, or the major part of them, shall appoint two more; but, if they cannot agree in the appointment, the executive of each State shall appoint one in addition; not, however, in that case, to be a citizen of its own State. And any vacancy happening with respect to the commissioners, shall be supplied in the manner provided for their original appointment; and, in addition to the powers hereinbefore given to said commissioners, they shall have full power and authority to divide all the public lands within the district between the respective States, in equal shares, or moieties, in severalty, having regard to quantity, situation, and quality; they shall determine what lands shall be surveyed and divided, from time to time, the expenses of which surveys, and of the commissioners, shall be borne equally by the two States. They shall keep fair records of their doings, and of the surveys made by their direction, copies of which



records, authenticated by them, shall be deposited, from time to time, in the archives of the respective States ; transcripts of which, properly certified, may be admitted in evidence, in all questions touching the subject to which they relate. The executive authority of each State may revoke the power of either or both its commissioners ; having, however, first appointed a substitute or substitutes, and may fill any vacancy happening with respect to its own commissioners ; four of said commissioners shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business ; their decision shall be final upon all subjects within their cognizance. In case said commission shall expire, the same not having been completed, and either State shall request the renewal or filling up of the same, it shall be renewed or filled up in the same manner as is herein provided for filling the same in the first instance, and with the like powers : and if either shall, after six months' notice, neglect or refuse to appoint its commissioners, the other may fill up the whole commission.

*“ Seventh.* All grants of lands, franchises, immunities, corporate or other rights, and all contracts for, or grants of lands not yet located, which have been, or may be, made by the said commonwealth, before the separation of said district shall take place, and having or to have effect within the said district, shall continue in full force, after the said district shall become a separate State. But the grant which has been made to the President and trustees of Bowdoin College, out of the tax laid upon the banks within this commonwealth, shall be charged upon the tax upon the banks within the said district of Maine, and paid according to the terms of said grant ; and the President and trustees, and the overseers of said College, shall have, hold, and enjoy their powers and privileges in all respects : so that the same shall not be subject to be altered, limited, annulled, or restrained, except by judicial process, according to the principles of law ; and, in all grants hereafter to be made, by either state, of unlocated land within the said district, the same reservations shall be made for the benefit of schools, and of the ministry, as have heretofore been usual in grants made by this commonwealth. And all lands heretofore granted by this commonwealth to any religious, literary, or eleemosynary corporation, or society, shall be free from taxation, while the same continues to be owned by such corporation or society.

*“ Eighth.* No laws shall be passed in the proposed State, with regard to taxes, actions, or remedies at law, or bars, or limitations thereof, or otherwise making any distinction between the lands and rights of property of proprietors not resident in, or not citizens of, said proposed State, and the lands and rights of property of the citizens of the proposed State, resident therein : and the rights and liabilities of all persons shall, after the said separation, continue the same as if the said district was still a part of this commonwealth, in all suits pending, or judgments remaining unsatisfied, on the fifteenth day of March next, where the suits have been commenced in

Massachusetts proper, and process has been served within the district of Maine; or commenced in the district of Maine, and process has been served in Massachusetts proper, either by taking bail, making attachments, arresting and detaining persons, or otherwise, where execution remains to be done; and in such suits the courts within Massachusetts proper, and within the proposed State, shall continue to have the same jurisdiction as if the said district had still remained a part of the commonwealth. And this commonwealth shall have the same remedies within the proposed State as it now has, for the collection of all taxes, bonds, or debts, which may be assessed, due, made, or contracted, by, to, or with the commonwealth, on or before the said fifteenth day of March, within the said district of Maine; and all officers within Massachusetts proper and the district of Maine shall conduct themselves accordingly.

“*Ninth.* These terms and conditions, as here set forth, when the said district shall become a separate and independent State, shall, *ipso facto*, be incorporated into, and become, and be a part of, any constitution, provisional or other, under which the government of the said proposed State shall, at any time hereafter, be administered; subject, however, to be modified or annulled by the agreement of the Legislature of both the said States; but by no other power or body whatsoever.”

SEC. 6. This Constitution shall be enrolled on parchment, deposited in the Secretary's office, and be the supreme law of the State; and printed copies thereof shall be prefixed to the books containing the laws of this State.

Done in Convention, October 29, 1819.

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## AMENDMENTS TO THE CONSTITUTION,

*Adopted in pursuance of the Fourth Section of the Tenth Article of the original Constitution.*

### ARTICLE I.

The electors resident in any city, may, at any meeting duly notified for the choice of representatives, vote for such representatives in their respective ward meetings; and the wardens in said wards shall preside impartially at such meetings, receive votes of all qualified electors present, sort, count, and declare them in open ward meetings, and, in the presence of the ward clerk, who shall form a list of the persons voted for, with the number of votes for each person against his name; shall make a fair record thereof in the presence of the wardens, and in open ward meeting; and a fair copy of this list shall be attested by the warden and ward clerk, sealed up



in open ward meeting, and delivered to the city clerk within twenty-four hours after the close of the polls. And the aldermen of any city shall be in session, at their usual place of meeting, within twenty-four hours after any election, and in the presence of the city clerk, shall examine and compare the copies of said lists; and in case any person shall have received a majority of all the votes, he shall be declared elected by the aldermen; and the city clerk of any city shall make a record thereof, and the aldermen and city clerk shall deliver certified copies of such lists to the person or persons so elected, within ten days after the election. And the electors resident in any city may, at any meeting duly notified and holden for the choice of any other civil officers for whom they have been required heretofore to vote in town meeting, vote for such officers in their respective wards, and the same proceedings shall be had by the warden and ward clerk in each ward, as in the case of votes for representatives. And the aldermen of any city shall be in session within twenty-four hours after the close of the polls in such meetings, and in the presence of the city clerk, shall open, examine, and compare the copies from the lists of votes given in the several wards, of which the city clerk shall make a record, and a return thereof shall be made into the Secretary of State's office, in the same manner as selectmen of towns are required to do.

## ARTICLE II.

No person, before conviction, shall be bailable for any of the crimes which now are or have been denominated capital offences since the adoption of the Constitution, when the proof is evident or the presumption great, whatever the punishment of the crime may be.

## ARTICLE III.

All judicial officers now in office, or who may be hereafter appointed, shall, from and after the first day of March in the year 1840, hold their offices for the term of seven years from the time of their respective appointments, (unless sooner removed by impeachment or by address of both branches of the Legislature to the Executive,) and no longer, unless re-appointed thereto.

## ARTICLE IV.

The second section, article fourth, part first, of the constitution, is amended by substituting the words *one hundred and fifty-one* for "not less than one hundred nor more than two hundred," before the word "members" in said section, so as to establish the number of representatives for the state at the number of one hundred and fifty-one; and the latter part of said section, being the words and sentences following: "and, whenever the number of representatives shall be two hundred, at the next annual meetings of election which shall thereafter be had, and at every subsequent period of ten years,

the people shall give in their votes, whether the number of representatives shall be increased or diminished, and if a majority of votes are in favor thereof, it shall be the duty of the next legislature thereafter to increase or diminish the number by the rule hereinafter prescribed," shall not be a part of the constitution ; but one hundred and fifty-one representatives shall be apportioned according to the rule in this constitution.

#### ARTICLE V.

[\*The annual meeting of the legislature shall be on the second Wednesday of May, in each year ; and the governor and other state officers elected for the political year commencing on the first Wednesday of January, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and forty-five, shall hold their offices till the second Wednesday of May, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and forty-six.]

#### ARTICLE VI.

The credit of the state shall not be directly or indirectly loaned in any case.

The legislature shall not create any debt or debts, liability or liabilities, on behalf of the state, which shall singly, or in the aggregate, with previous debts and liabilities hereafter incurred at any one time, exceed three hundred thousand dollars, except to suppress insurrection, to repel invasion, or for purposes of war ; but this amendment shall not be construed to refer to any money that has been, or may be deposited with this state by the government of the United States, or to any fund which the state shall hold in trust for any Indian tribe.

#### ARTICLE VII.

The constitution of this state is amended in the fifth section of the first part of the fourth article, by striking out the words, "a majority of all the," and inserting instead thereof, the words, "the highest number of," and by striking out the words "a majority" where they again occur in the same section, and inserting instead thereof, the words "the highest number ;" also in the first amendment to the constitution of this state, by striking out the words "a majority of all the," and inserting instead thereof, the words "the highest number of."

#### ARTICLE VIII.

The annual meeting of the legislature shall be on the first Wednesday of January, in each year ; and the governor and other state officers elected for the political year commencing on the second Wednesday of May, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and fifty-one, shall hold their offices till the first Wednesday of January, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and fifty-two.

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\* Annulled. See 8th Amendment.



## AMENDMENTS TO THE CONSTITUTION.

The amendments to the Constitution, included in the following resolve, were adopted by the People, September tenth, eighteen hundred and fifty-five.

*Resolves of 1856.—Chapter 304.—Resolve declaratory of Amendments of the Constitution.*

Whereas, it appears upon the examination of the returns of votes in relation to certain amendments of the Constitution, provided for by resolves passed on the seventeenth day of March, in the year of our Lord, one thousand eight hundred and fifty-five, and of the report of the executive council thereon, that the inhabitants of the several cities, towns, and plantations of this State, at the annual meeting in September last, gave in their votes on the following questions submitted to them by virtue of said resolves, viz:

"Shall the judges of probate, registers of probate, judges of municipal and police courts, and sheriffs, be elected by the people?"

"Shall the land agent, attorney-general, and adjutant and quartermaster-general, be chosen by the legislature, as the secretary of state, state treasurer, and councillors now are?"

And it now appearing by examination of said returns, that a majority of the inhabitants voting on said questions, were in favor of said amendments, therefore

*Resolved*, That the Constitution of this State is amended as follows: In the sixth article it is amended by adding the following sections at the end of said article:

"SEC. 7. Judges and registers of probate shall be elected by the people of their respective counties, by a plurality of the votes given in at the annual election, on the second Monday of September, and shall hold their offices for four years, commencing on the first day of January next after their election. Vacancies occurring in said offices by death, resignation, or otherwise, shall be filled by election in manner aforesaid, at the September election, next after their occurrence; and in the meantime, the Governor, with the advice and consent of the council, may fill said vacancies by appointment, and the persons so appointed shall hold their offices until the first day of January thereafter."

"8. Judges of municipal and police courts shall be elected by the people of their respective cities and towns, by a plurality of the votes given in at the annual meeting in March or April, and shall hold their offices for four years from the Monday following the day of their election. Vacancies in said office shall be filled by election at the next annual meeting in March or April; and in the meantime, the Governor, with the advice and consent of the council, may fill said vacancies by appointment, until the Monday following said annual meeting."

In the third section of the seventh article, it is amended so that said section shall read;

"SEC. 3. The major generals shall be elected by the Senate and House of Representatives, each having a negative on the other. The adjutant general and quartermaster general shall be chosen annually by joint ballot of the senators and representatives in convention. But the adjutant general shall perform the duties of quartermaster general until otherwise directed by law. The major generals and brigadier generals, and the commanding officers of regiments and battalions, shall appoint their respective staff officers; and all military officers shall be commissioned by the governor."

The ninth article is amended by inserting at the end thereof the following sections:

"SEC. 9. Sheriffs shall be elected by the people of their respective counties, by a plurality of the votes given in on the second Monday of September, and shall hold their offices for two years, from the first day of January next after their election. Vacancies shall be filled in the same manner as is provided in the case of judges and registers of probate."

"10. The land agent and attorney general shall be chosen annually by joint ballot of the senators and representatives in convention. Vacancies in said offices occurring when the legislature is not in session, may be filled by appointment by the Governor, with the advice and consent of the council."

And in all cases of election provided for by the foregoing amendments of the Constitution, the first election shall take place on the days and times thereby prescribed occurring next after the passage of this resolve; and until said offices shall be filled by elections under and by virtue of said amendments, the power of the Governor and council in relation thereto will remain unchanged.

[Approved February 28, 1856.]

## NEW HAMPSHIRE.



NEW HAMPSHIRE was first visited by Europeans in 1614. The first settlement was made at Dover and Portsmouth in 1623, three years after the landing of the Pilgrims at Plymouth, under a charter to F. Gorges, from James I.

The early inhabitants were greatly annoyed by the Indians, and, in their repeated wars with them, suffered more than any other of the colonies. This colony was twice united with that of Massachusetts. The final separation took place in 1741, when the boundaries of the two colonies were settled. New Hampshire publicly declared itself independent of Massachusetts, June 15th, 1776, and in December, of the same year, framed a temporary form of government. The first Constitution was adopted in 1784. This State was admitted into the Union in 1788. Its present Constitution was adopted in 1792. Area, 9,280 square miles. Population, in 1850, 317,864.

## CONSTITUTION.

### PART I.

#### *Bill of Rights.*

ART. 1. All men are born equally free and independent : Therefore, all government, of right, originates from the people, is founded in consent, and instituted for the general good.



2. All men have certain natural, essential, and inherent rights—among which are, the enjoying and defending life and liberty, acquiring, possessing, and protecting property; and, in a word, of seeking and obtaining happiness.

3. When men enter into a state of society, they surrender up some of their natural rights to that society, in order to ensure the protection of others; and without such an equivalent the surrender is void.

4. Among the natural rights, some are in their very nature unalienable, because no equivalent can be given or received for them. Of this kind are the *rights of conscience*.

5. Every individual has a natural and unalienable right to worship God, according to the dictates of his own conscience and reason: and no person shall be hurt, molested, or restrained in his person, liberty, or estate, for worshiping God in the manner most agreeable to the dictates of his own conscience, or for his religious profession, sentiments, or persuasion; provided he doth not disturb the public peace, or disturb others in their religious worship.

6. As morality and piety, rightly grounded on evangelical principles, will give the best and greatest security to government, and will lay, in the hearts of men, the strongest obligations to due subjection; and as the knowledge of these is most likely to be propagated through a society by the institution of the public worship of the Deity, and of public instruction, in morality and religion; therefore, to promote these important purposes, the people of this State have a right to empower, and do hereby fully empower, the Legislature, to authorize, from time to time, the several towns, parishes, bodies corporate, or religious societies, within this State, to make adequate provision, at their own expense, for the support and maintenance of public Protestant teachers of piety, religion, and morality:

*Provided, notwithstanding,* That the several towns, parishes, bodies corporate, or religious societies, shall at all times have the exclusive right of electing their own public teachers, and of contracting with them for their support and maintenance: And no person, of any one particular religious sect or denomination, shall ever be compelled to pay towards the support of the teacher or teachers of another persuasion, sect, or denomination.

And every denomination of Christians, demeaning themselves quietly, and as good citizens of the State, shall be equally under the protection of the law: and no subordination of any one sect or denomination to another, shall ever be established by law.

And nothing herein shall be understood to affect any former contracts made for the support of the ministry; but all such contracts shall remain, and be in the same state, as if this Constitution had not been made.

7. The people of this State have the sole and exclusive right of governing themselves as a free, sovereign, and independent State;

and do, and forever hereafter shall, exercise and enjoy every power, jurisdiction, and right, pertaining thereto, which is not, and may not hereafter be, by them expressly delegated to the United States of America in Congress assembled.

8. All power residing originally in, and being derived from the people, all the magistrates and officers of government are their substitutes and agents, and at all times accountable to them.

9. No office or place whatsoever, in government, shall be hereditary—the ability and integrity requisite in all not being transmissible to posterity or relations.

10. Government being instituted for the common benefit, protection, and security of the whole community, and not for the private interest or emolument of any one man, family, or class of men: therefore, whenever the ends of the government are perverted, or public liberty manifestly endangered, and all other means of redress are ineffectual, the people may, and of right ought to, reform the old, or establish a new government. The doctrine of non-resistance against arbitrary power and oppression, is absurd, slavish, and destructive of the good and happiness of mankind.

11. All elections ought to be free, and every inhabitant of the State, having the proper qualifications, has an equal right to elect, and be elected, into office.

12. Every member of the community has a right to be protected by it, in the enjoyment of his life, liberty, and property; he is therefore bound to contribute his share to the expense of such protection, and to yield his personal service when necessary, or an equivalent. But no part of a man's property shall be taken from him, or applied to public uses, without his own consent, or that of the representative body of the people. Nor are the inhabitants of this State controllable by any other laws than those to which they, or their representative body, have given their consent.

13. No person who is conscientiously scrupulous about the lawfulness of bearing arms, shall be compelled thereto, provided he will pay an equivalent.

14. Every citizen of this State is entitled to a certain remedy, by having recourse to the laws, for all injuries he may receive in his person, property, or character; to obtain right and justice freely, without being obliged to purchase it; completely, and without denial, promptly, and without delay, conformable to the laws.

15. No person shall be held to answer for any crime or offence, until the same is fully and plainly, substantially and formally, described to him: nor be compelled to accuse or furnish evidence against himself. And every person shall have a right to produce all proofs that may be favorable to himself; to meet the witnesses against him face to face; and to be fully heard in his defense, by himself and counsel. And no person shall be arrested, imprisoned, despoiled, or deprived of his property, immunities, or privileges, put out of the protection of the law, exiled, or deprived of his



life, liberty, or estate, but by the judgment of his peers, or the law of the land.

16. No person shall be liable to be tried, after an acquittal, for the same crime or offence. Nor shall the Legislature make any law that shall subject any person to a capital punishment (excepting for the government of the army and navy, and the militia in actual service), without trial by jury.

17. In criminal prosecutions, the trial of facts, in the vicinity where they happen, is so essential to the security of the life, liberty, and estate, of the citizens, that no crime or offence ought to be tried in any other county than that in which it is committed, except in cases of general insurrection in any particular county, when it shall appear to the judges of the superior courts that an impartial trial cannot be had in the county where the offence may be committed, and upon their report the Legislature shall think proper to direct the trial in the nearest county in which an impartial trial can be obtained.

18. All penalties ought to be proportioned to the nature of the offence. No wise legislature will affix the same punishment to the crimes of theft, forgery, and the like, which they do to those of murder and treason. Where the same undistinguished severity is exerted against all offences, the people are led to forget the real distinction in the crimes themselves, and to commit the most flagrant with as little compunction as they do the lightest offences. For the same reason, a multitude of sanguinary laws is both impolitic and unjust: the true design of all punishments being to reform, not to exterminate mankind.

19. Every person hath a right to be secure from all unreasonable searches and seizures of his person, his houses, his papers, and all his possessions. Therefore, all warrants to search suspected places, or arrest a person for examination or trial, in prosecution for criminal matters, are contrary to this right, if the cause or foundation of them be not previously supported by oath or affirmation, and if the order in a warrant of a civil officer, to make search in suspected places, or to arrest one or more suspected persons, or to seize their property, be not accompanied with a special designation of the persons or objects of search, arrest, or seizure; and no warrant ought to be issued, but in cases, and with the formalities, prescribed by law.

20. In all controversies concerning property, and in all suits between two or more persons, excepting in cases wherein it hath been heretofore otherwise used and practised, the parties have a right to a trial by jury; and this right shall be deemed sacred and inviolable; but the Legislature may, by the Constitution, be empowered to make such regulations as will prevent parties from having as many trials by jury, in the same suit or action, as hath been heretofore allowed and practised, and to extend the civil jurisdiction of justices of the peace to the trials of suits where the sum demanded in damages doth not exceed four pounds, saving the right of appeal to

either party. But no such regulations shall take away the right of trial by jury, in any case not in this article before excepted, unless in cases respecting mariners' wages.

21. In order to reap the fullest advantage of the inestimable privilege of the trial by jury, great care ought to be taken that none but qualified persons should be appointed to serve; and such ought to be fully compensated for their travel, time, and attendance.

22. The *liberty of the press* is essential to the security of freedom in a State; it ought, therefore, to be inviolably preserved.

23. Retrospective laws are highly injurious, oppressive, and unjust. No such laws, therefore, should be made, either for the decision of civil causes, or the punishment of offences.

24. A well regulated militia is the proper, natural, and sure defense of a State.

25. Standing armies are dangerous to liberty, and ought not to be raised, or kept up, without the consent of the Legislature.

26. In all cases, and at all times, the military ought to be under strict subordination to, and governed by the civil power.

27. No soldier, in time of peace, shall be quartered in any house, without the consent of the owner; and in time of war, such quarters ought not to be made but by the civil magistrate, in a manner ordained by the Legislature.

28. No subsidy, charge, tax, impost, or duty shall be established, fixed, laid, or levied, under any pretext whatsoever, without the consent of the people, or their representatives in the Legislature, or authority derived from that body.

29. The power of suspending the laws, or the execution of them, ought never to be exercised but by the Legislature, or by authority derived therefrom, to be exercised in such particular cases only as the Legislature shall expressly provide for.

30. The freedom of deliberation, speech, and debate, in either house of the Legislature, is so essential to the rights of the people, that it cannot be the foundation of any action, complaint, or prosecution, in any other court or place whatsoever.

31. The Legislature shall assemble for the redress of public grievances, and for making such laws as the public good may require.

32. The people have a right, in an orderly and peaceable manner, to assemble and consult upon the public good, give instructions to their representatives, and to request of the legislative body, by way of petition or remonstrance, redress of the wrongs done them, and of the grievances they suffer.

33. No magistrate or court of law shall demand excessive bail or sureties, impose excessive fines, or inflict cruel or unusual punishments.

34. No person can, in any case, be subjected to law martial, or to any pains or penalties by virtue of that law, except those employed in the army or navy, and except the militia in actual service, but by authority of the Legislature.



35. It is essential to the preservation of the rights of every individual, his life, liberty, property, and character, that there be an impartial interpretation of the laws and administration of justice. It is the right of every citizen to be tried by judges as impartial as the lot of humanity will admit. It is therefore not only the best policy, but for the security of the rights of the people, that the judges of the Supreme Judicial Court should hold their offices so long as they behave well; subject, however, to such limitations, on account of age, as may be provided by the Constitution of the State: and that they should have honorable salaries, ascertained and established by standing laws.

36. Economy being a most essential virtue in all states, especially in a young one, no pension shall be granted but in consideration of actual services; and such pensions ought to be granted with great caution by the Legislature, and never for more than one year at a time.

37. In the government of this State, the three essential powers thereof, to wit, the legislative, executive, and judicial, ought to be kept as separate from, and independent of each other, as the nature of a free government will admit, or as is consistent with that chain of connection that binds the whole fabric of the Constitution in one indissoluble bond of unity and amity.

38. A frequent recurrence to the fundamental principles of the Constitution, and a constant adherence to justice, moderation, temperance, industry, frugality, and all the social virtues, are indispensably necessary to preserve the blessings of liberty and good government; the people ought, therefore, to have a particular regard to all those principles in the choice of their officers and representatives: And they have a right to require of their lawgivers and magistrates an exact and constant observance of them in the formation and execution of the laws necessary for the good administration of the government.

## PART II.

### *Form of Government.*

The people inhabiting the territory formerly called the province of New Hampshire, do hereby solemnly and mutually agree with each other to form themselves into a free, sovereign, and independent body politic, or State, by the name of the *State of New Hampshire*.

### *General Court.*

The supreme legislative power, within this State, shall be vested in the Senate and House of Representatives, each of which shall have a negative on the other.

The Senate and House shall assemble every year on the first Wednesday in June--and at such other times as they may judge

necessary; and shall dissolve, and be dissolved, seven days next preceding the said first Wednesday in June; and shall be styled *The General Court of New Hampshire*.

The General Court shall forever have full power and authority to erect and constitute judicatories and courts of record, or other courts, to be holden in the name of the State, for the hearing, trying, and determining all manner of crimes, offences, pleas, processes, complaints, actions, causes, matters, and things whatsoever, arising or happening within this State, or between or concerning persons inhabiting or residing, or brought within the same, whether the same be criminal or civil, or whether the crimes be capital or not capital, and whether the said pleas be real, personal, or mixed; and for awarding and issuing execution thereon. To which courts and judicatories, are hereby given and granted, full power and authority, from time to time, to administer oaths or affirmations, for the better discovery of truth in any matter in controversy, or depending before them.

And farther, full power and authority are hereby given and granted to the said General Court, from time to time, to make, ordain, and establish all manner of wholesome and reasonable orders, laws, statutes, ordinances, directions, and instructions, either with penalties, or without, so as the same be not repugnant or contrary to this Constitution, as they may judge for the benefit and welfare of this State, and for the governing and ordering thereof; and of the citizens of the same, for the necessary support and defense of the government thereof; and to name and settle annually, or provide by fixed laws for the naming and settling all civil officers within this State; such officers excepted, the election and appointment of whom are hereafter in this form of government otherwise provided for; and to set forth the several duties, powers, and limits of the several civil and military officers of this State, and the forms of such oaths or affirmations as shall be respectively administered unto them, for the execution of their several offices and places, so as the same be not repugnant or contrary to this Constitution; and also to impose fines, mulcts, imprisonments, and other punishments; and to impose and levy proportional and reasonable assessments, rates, and taxes upon all the inhabitants of, and residents within, the said State; and upon all estates within the same; to be issued and disposed of by warrant, under the hand of the Governor of this State for the time being, with the advice and consent of the Council, for the public service, in the necessary defense and support of the Government of this State, and the protection and preservation of the citizens thereof, according to such acts as are, or shall be, in force within the same.

And while the public charges of government, or any part thereof, shall be assessed on polls and estates in the manner that has been heretofore practised, in order that such assessments may be made with equality, there shall be a valuation of the estates, within the



State, taken anew once in every five years at least, and as much oftener as the General Court shall order.

No member of the General Court shall take fees, be of counsel or act as advocate, in any cause before either branch of the Legislature; and upon due proof thereof, such member shall forfeit his seat in the Legislature.

The doors of the galleries of each house of the Legislature shall be kept open to all persons who behave decently, except when the welfare of the State, in the opinion of either branch, shall require secrecy.

### *Senate.*

The Senate shall consist of twelve members, who shall hold their offices for one year, from the first Wednesday in June next ensuing their election.

And that the State may be equally represented in the Senate, the Legislature shall, from time to time, divide the State into twelve districts, as nearly equal as may be without dividing towns and unincorporated places; and in making this division, they shall govern themselves by the proportion of public taxes paid by the said districts, and timely make known to the inhabitants of the State the limits of each district.

The freeholders and other inhabitants of each district, qualified as in this Constitution is provided, shall annually give in their votes for a senator, at some meeting holden in the month of March.

The Senate shall be the first branch of the Legislature: and the senators shall be chosen in the following manner, viz.: Every male inhabitant of each town, and parish with town privileges, and places unincorporated, in this State, of twenty-one years of age and upwards, excepting paupers, and persons excused from paying taxes at their own request, shall have a right at the annual or other meetings of the inhabitants of said towns and parishes, to be duly warned and holden annually forever in the month of March, to vote in the town or parish wherein he dwells, for the senators of the county or district whereof he is a member.

*Provided, nevertheless,* That no person shall be capable of being elected a senator, who is not of the protestant religion \* \*  
 \* \* \* \* \* \* \* \* \* \*  
 \* \* \* \* \* \* \* \* \* \* who is not of the age of 30 years, and who shall not have been an inhabitant of this State for seven years immediately preceding his election, and at the time thereof he shall be an inhabitant of the district for which he shall be chosen.

And every person, qualified as the Constitution provides, shall be considered an inhabitant for the purpose of electing and being elected into any office or place within this State, in the town, parish, and plantation where he dwelleth and hath his home.

And the inhabitants of plantations and places unincorporated, qualified as this Constitution provides, who are or shall be required

to assess taxes upon themselves towards the support of government, or shall be taxed therefor, shall have the same privilege of voting for senators in the plantations and places wherein they reside, as the inhabitants of the respective towns and parishes aforesaid have. And the meeting of such plantations and places for that purpose shall be holden annually, in the month of March, at such places respectively therein as the assessors thereof shall direct; which assessors shall have like authority for notifying the electors, collecting and returning the votes, as the selectmen and town clerks have in their several towns by this Constitution.

The meetings for the choice of Governor, Council and senators shall be warned, by warrant, from the selectmen, and governed by a moderator, who shall, in the presence of the selectmen, (whose duty it shall be to attend,) in open meeting, receive the votes of all the inhabitants of such towns and parishes present, and qualified to vote for senators; and shall, in said meetings, in presence of the said selectmen and of the town clerk, in said meeting, sort and count the said votes, and make a public declaration thereof, with the name of every person voted for, and the number of votes for each person: and the town clerk shall make a fair record of the same at large, in the town book, and shall make out a fair attested copy thereof, to be by him sealed up and directed to the Secretary of the State, with a superscription expressing the purport thereof: and the said town clerk shall cause such attested copy to be delivered to the sheriff of the county in which such town or parish shall lie, forty days at least before the first Wednesday in June; or to the Secretary of the State at least thirty days before the said first Wednesday in June; and the sheriff of each county, or his deputy, shall deliver all such certificates by him received, into the Secretary's office, at least thirty days before the first Wednesday in June.

And that there may be a due meeting of senators on the first Wednesday in June annually, the Governor and the majority of the Council for the time being, shall, as soon as may be, examine the returned copies of such records, and, fourteen days before the said first Wednesday in June, he shall issue his summons to such persons as appear to be chosen senators by a majority of votes, to attend and take their seats on that day.

*Provided, nevertheless,* That for the first year, the said returned copies shall be examined by the President and a majority of the Council then in office: and the said President shall, in like manner, notify the persons elected, to attend and take their seats accordingly.

And in case there shall not appear to be a senator elected by a majority of votes, for any district, the deficiency shall be applied in the following manner, viz.: The members of the House of Representatives, and such senators as shall be declared elected, shall take the names of the two persons having the highest number of votes in the district, and out of them shall elect by joint ballot the senator



wanted for such district; and in this manner all such vacancies shall be filled up in every district of the State; and in like manner all vacancies in the Senate, arising by death, removal out of the State, or otherwise, shall be supplied as soon as may be after such vacancies happen.

The Senate shall be final judges of the elections, returns, and qualifications of their own members, as pointed out in this Constitution.

The Senate shall have power to adjourn themselves, provided such adjournment do not exceed two days at a time.

*Provided, nevertheless,* That whenever they shall sit on the trial of any impeachment, they may adjourn to such time and place as they may think proper, although the Legislature be not assembled on such day or at such place.

The Senate shall appoint their President and other officers, and determine their own rules of proceedings: and not less than seven members of this Senate shall make a quorum for doing business; and when less than eight senators shall be present, the assent of five at least shall be necessary to render their acts and proceedings valid.

The Senate shall be a court, with full power and authority to hear, try, and determine, all impeachments made by the House of Representatives against any officer or officers of the State, for bribery, corruption, malpractice, or maladministration in office; with full power to issue summons, or compulsory process, for convening witnesses before them, with all necessary powers incident to a court of trials; but, previous to the trial of any such impeachment, the members of the Senate shall be respectively sworn truly and impartially to try and determine the charge and question, according to evidence. And every officer, impeached for bribery, corruption, malpractice, or maladministration in office, shall be served with an attested copy of the impeachment and order of the Senate thereon, with such citation as the Senate may direct, setting forth the time and place of their sitting to try the impeachment; which service shall be made by the sheriff, or such other sworn officer as the Senate may appoint, at least fourteen days previous to the time of trial; and such citation being duly served and returned, the Senate may proceed in hearing of the impeachment, giving the person impeached, if he shall appear, full liberty of producing witnesses and proofs, and of making his defense, by himself and counsel; and may, also, upon his refusing or neglecting to appear, hear the proofs in support of the impeachment, and render judgment thereon, his non-appearance notwithstanding; and such judgment shall have the same force and effect as if the person impeached had appeared and pleaded in the trial. Their judgment, however, shall not extend further than removal from office, disqualification to hold or enjoy any place of honor, trust, or profit under this State; but the party so convicted shall nevertheless be liable to indictment, trial, judgment, and punishment according to the laws of the land.

Whenever the Governor shall be impeached, the Chief Justice of the Supreme Judicial Court shall, during the trial, preside in the Senate, but have no vote therein.

*House of Representatives.*

There shall be, in the Legislature of this State, a representation of the people, annually elected, and founded upon principles of equality; and in order that such representation may be as equal as circumstances will admit, every town, parish, or place, entitled to town privileges, having one hundred and fifty ratable male polls, of twenty-one years of age, and upwards, may elect one representative: if four hundred and fifty ratable male polls, may elect two representatives; and so proceeding, in that proportion, make three hundred such ratable polls the mean of increasing number, for every additional representative.

Such towns, parishes, or places, as have less than one hundred and fifty ratable polls, shall be classed by the general assembly, for the purpose of choosing a representative, and seasonably notified thereof. And in every class formed for the above-mentioned purpose, the first annual meeting shall be held in the town, parish, or place wherein most of the ratable polls reside; and afterwards in that which has the next highest number; and so on, annually, by rotation, through the several towns, parishes, or places forming the district.

Whenever any town, parish, or place entitled to town privileges, as aforesaid, shall not have one hundred and fifty ratable polls, and be so situated as to render the classing thereof with any other town, parish, or place very inconvenient; the general assembly may, upon application of a majority of the votes of such town, parish, or place, issue a writ for their selecting and sending a representative to the General Court.

The members of the House of Representatives shall be chosen annually, in the month of March, and shall be the second branch of the Legislature.

All persons qualified to vote in the election of senators shall be entitled to vote, within the district where they dwell, in the choice of representatives. Every member of the House of Representatives shall be chosen by ballot; and for two years at least next preceding his election, shall have been an inhabitant of this State; \* \*

\* \* \* \* \*

\* \* \* \* \* shall be, at the time of his election, an inhabitant of the district he may be chosen to represent: shall be of the protestant religion, and shall cease to represent such town, parish, or place, immediately on his ceasing to be qualified as aforesaid.

The members of both houses of the Legislature shall be compensated for their services out of the treasury of the State, by a law



made for that purpose ; such members attending seasonably, and not departing without license. All intermediate vacancies in the House of Representatives, may be filled up from time to time, in the same manner as annual elections are made.

The House of Representatives shall be the grand inquest of the State ; and all impeachments made by them shall be heard and tried by the Senate.

All money-bills shall originate in the House of Representatives ; but the Senate may propose or concur with amendments, as on other bills.

The House of Representatives shall have the power to adjourn themselves, but no longer than two days at a time.

A majority of the members of the House of Representatives shall be a quorum for doing business ; but when less than two-thirds of the House of Representatives elected shall be present, the assent of two-thirds of those members shall be necessary to render their acts and proceedings valid.

No member of the House of Representatives or Senate shall be arrested or held to bail, on mesne process, during his going to, return from, or attendance upon the court.

The House of Representatives shall choose their own Speaker, appoint their own officers, and settle the rules of proceedings in their own house ; and shall be judge of the return, elections, and qualifications of its members, as pointed out in this Constitution. They shall have authority to punish, by imprisonment, every person who shall be guilty of disrespect to the House in its presence, by any disorderly and contemptuous behaviour, or by threatening or ill treating any of its members ; or by obstructing its deliberations ; every person guilty of a breach of its privileges, in making arrests for debt, or by assaulting any member during his attendance at any session ; in assaulting or disturbing any one of its officers in the execution of any order or procedure of the House : in assaulting any witness or other person ordered to attend by, and during his attendance on, the House, or in rescuing any person arrested by order of the House, knowing them to be such. The Senate, Governor, and Council shall have the same powers in like cases : provided that no imprisonment by either for any offence exceed ten days.

The journal of the proceedings, and all the public acts of both houses of the Legislature, shall be printed and published immediately after every adjournment or prorogation ; and upon motion made by any one member, the yeas and nays upon any question shall be entered in the journals : and any member of the Senate or House of Representatives shall have a right, on motion made at the time for that purpose, to have his protest or dissent, with the reasons, against any vote, resolve, or bill passed, entered on the journals.

EXECUTIVE POWER.—*Governor.*

There shall be a supreme executive magistrate, who shall be styled Governor of the State of New Hampshire; and whose title shall be His Excellency.

The Governor shall be chosen annually, in the month of March; and the votes for Governor shall be received, counted, certified, and returned in the same manner as the votes for senators; and the Secretary shall lay the same before the Senate and House of Representatives on the first Wednesday in June, to be by them examined; and in case of an election by a majority of votes through the State, the choice shall be by them declared and published.

And the qualifications of electors of the Governor shall be the same as those for senators; and if no person shall have a majority of votes, the Senate and House of Representatives shall, by joint ballot, elect one of the two persons having the highest number of votes, who shall be declared Governor.

And no person shall be eligible to this office unless, at the time of his election, he shall have been an inhabitant of this State for seven years next preceding, and unless he shall be of the age of thirty years, \* \* \* \* \* and unless he shall be of the protestant religion.

In cases of disagreement between the two houses, with regard to the time or place of adjournment or prorogation, the Governor, with advise of Council, shall have a right to adjourn or prorogue the General Court, not exceeding ninety days at any one time, as he may determine the public good may require, to meet at the place where the General Court shall be at that time sitting; and he shall dissolve the same seven days before the said first Wednesday in June.

And, in case of any infectious distemper prevailing in the place where the said Court at any time is to convene, or any other cause whereby danger may arise to the health or lives of the members from their attendance, the Governor may direct the session to be holden at some other, the most convenient place within the State.

Every bill which shall have passed both houses of the General Court shall, before it become a law, be presented to the Governor: if he approve, he shall sign it; but if not, he shall return it, with his objections, to that house in which it shall have originated, who shall enter the objections at large on their journal, and proceed to reconsider it; if, after such reconsideration, two-thirds of that house shall agree to pass the bill, it shall be sent, together with such objections, to the other house, by which it shall likewise be reconsidered, and if approved by two-thirds of that house, shall become a law. But in all such cases the votes of both houses shall be determined by yeas and nays, and the names of the persons voting for or against the bill shall be entered on the journal of each house respectively. If any bill shall not be returned by the Governor within five days (Sundays excepted) after it shall have been presented to him, the same shall be a law, in like manner as if he had signed it, unless the



Legislature by their adjournment prevent its return, in which case it shall not be a law.

Every resolve shall be presented to the Governor, and before the same shall take effect, shall be approved by him, or being disapproved by him, shall be repassed by the Senate and House of Representatives, according to the rules and limitations prescribed in the case of a bill.

All judicial officers, the Attorney-general, solicitors, all sheriffs, coroners, registers of probate, and all officers of the navy, and general and field-officers of the militia, shall be nominated and appointed by the Governor and Council; and every such nomination shall be made at least three days prior to such appointment; and no appointment shall take place unless a majority of the Council agree thereto. The Governor and Council shall have a negative on each other, both in the nominations and appointments. Every nomination and appointment shall be signed by the Governor and Council, and every negative shall also be signed by the Governor or Council who made the same.

The captains and subalterns, in the respective regiments, shall be nominated by the field-officers, and, if approved by the Governor, shall be appointed by him.

Whenever the chair of the Governor shall become vacant, by reason of his death, absence from the State, or otherwise, the President of the Senate shall, during such vacancy, have and exercise all the powers and authorities which, by this Constitution, the Governor is vested with, when personally present; but when the President of the Senate shall exercise the office of Governor, he shall not hold his office in the Senate.

The Governor, with the advice of Council, shall have full power and authority, in the recess of the General Court, to prorogue the same from time to time, not exceeding ninety days, in any one recess of said Court; and during the session of said Court, to adjourn or prorogue it to any time the two houses may desire, and to call it together sooner than the time to which it may be adjourned or prorogued, if the welfare of the State should require the same.

The Governor of this State for the time being, shall be commander-in-chief of the army and navy, and all the military forces of this State, by sea and land; and shall have full power, by himself or by any chief commander, or other officer or officers, from time to time, to train, instruct, exercise, and govern the militia and navy; and for the special defense and safety of this State, to assemble in martial array, and put in warlike posture, the inhabitants thereof, and to lead and conduct them, and with them encounter, repulse, repel, resist, and pursue, by force of arms, as well by sea as by land, within and without the limits of this State; and also to kill, slay, destroy if necessary, and conquer by all fitting ways, enterprise, and means, all and every such person and persons as shall at any time hereafter in a hostile manner attempt or enterprise the destruction,

invasion, detriment, or annoyance of this State; and to use and exercise over the army and navy, and over the militia in actual service, the law martial, in time of war, invasion, and also in rebellion, declared by the Legislature to exist, as occasion shall necessarily require. And surprise, by all ways and means whatsoever, all and every such person or persons, with their ships, arms, ammunition, and other goods, as shall in a hostile manner invade, or attempt the invading, conquering, or annoying this State: And, in fine, the Governor is hereby entrusted with all other powers incident to the office of captain-general and commander-in-chief, and admiral, to be exercised agreeably to the rules and regulations of the Constitution, and the laws of the land: Provided, that the Governor shall not at any time hereafter, by virtue of any power by this Constitution granted, or hereafter to be granted to him by the Legislature, transport any of the inhabitants of this State, or oblige them to march out of the limits of the same, without their free and voluntary consent, or the consent of the General Court, nor grant commissions for exercising the law martial in any case, without the advice and consent of the Council.

The power of pardoning offences, except such persons as may be convicted of before the Senate, by impeachment of the House, shall be in the Governor, by and with the advice of the Council: but no charter of pardon granted by the Governor, with advice of Council, before conviction, shall avail the party pleading the same, notwithstanding any general and particular expressions contained therein, descriptive of the offence or offences intended to be pardoned.

No officer duly commissioned to command in the militia shall be removed from his office, but by the address of both houses to the Governor, or by fair trial in court-martial, pursuant to the laws of the State for the time being.

The commanding officers of the regiments shall appoint their adjutants and quartermasters; the brigadiers, their brigade-major; the major-generals, their aids; the captains and subalterns, their non-commissioned officers.

The Governor and Council shall appoint all officers of the continental army, whom, by the confederation of the United States, it is provided that this State shall appoint; as also all officers of forts and garrisons.

The division of the militia into brigades, regiments, and companies, made in pursuance of the militia laws now in force, shall be considered as the proper division of the militia of this State, until the same shall be altered by some future law.

No moneys shall be issued out of the treasury of this State, and disposed of, except such sums as may be appropriated for the redemption of bills of credit, or treasurer's notes, or for the payment of interest arising thereon, by warrant under the hand of the Governor for the time being, by and with the advice and consent of the Council, for the necessary support and defense of this State, and



for the necessary protection and preservation of the inhabitants thereof, agreeably to the acts and resolves of the General Court.

All public boards, the commissary-general, all superintending officers of public magazines and stores belonging to this State, and all commanding officers of forts and garrisons within the same, shall, once in every three months, officially and without requisition, and at other times when required by the Governor, deliver to him an account of all goods, stores, provisions, ammunition, cannon, with their appendages, and small arms, with their accoutrements, and of all other public property under their care respectively; distinguishing the quantity and kind of each, as particularly as may be: together with the condition of such forts and garrisons; and the commanding officer shall exhibit to the Governor, when required by him, true and exact plans of such forts, and of the land and sea, or harbor or harbors adjacent.

The Governor and Council shall be compensated for their services, from time to time, by such grants as the General Court shall think reasonable.

Permanent and honorable salaries shall be established by law for the justices of the Supreme Court.

#### *Council.*

There shall be annually elected, by ballot, five counselors, for advising the Governor in the executive part of the government. The freeholders and other inhabitants, in each county, qualified to vote for senators, shall, some time in the month of March, give in their votes for one counselor; which votes shall be received, sorted, counted, certified, and returned to the secretary's office, in the same manner as the votes for senators, to be by the Secretary laid before the Senate and House of Representatives on the first Wednesday in June.

And the person having a majority of votes in any county shall be considered as duly elected a counselor; but if no person shall have a majority of votes in any county, the Senate and House of Representatives shall take the names of the two persons who have the highest number of votes in each county and not elected, and out of those two shall elect, by joint ballot, the counselor wanted for such county, and the qualifications for counselors shall be the same as for senator.

If any person thus chosen a counselor shall be elected Governor, or member of either branch of the Legislature, and shall not accept the trust; or if any

person elected a counselor shall refuse to accept the office; or in case of the death, resignation, or removal of any counselor out of the State, the Governor may issue a precept for the election of a new counselor in that county where such vacancy shall happen; and the choice shall be in the same manner as before directed: and the Governor shall have full power and authority to convene the Council, from time to time, at his discretion; and with them, or the majority of them, may, and shall, from time to time, hold a Council, for ordering and directing the affairs of the State according to the laws of the land.

The members of Council may be impeached by the House, and tried by the Senate, for bribery, corruption, malpractice, or maladministration.

The resolutions and advice of the Council shall be recorded by the Secretary, in a register, and signed by all the members present agreeing thereto; and this record may be called for at any time by either House of the Legislature; and any member of the Council may enter his opinion contrary to the resolutions of the majority, with the reason for such opinion.

The Legislature may, if the public good shall hereafter require it, divide the State into five districts as nearly equal as may be, governing themselves by the number of ratable polls, and proportion of public taxes: each district to elect a counselor; and in case of such division, the manner of the choice shall be conformable to the present mode of election in counties.

And whereas the elections appointed to be made by this Constitution on the first Wednesday of June annually, by the two houses of the Legislature, may not be completed on that day, the said elections may be adjourned from day to day, until the same may be completed; and the order of the elections shall be as follows; the vacancies in the Senate, if any, shall be first filled up; the Governor shall then be elected, provided there shall be no choice of him by the people; and afterwards the two houses shall proceed to fill up the vacancy, if any, in the Council.

*Secretary, Treasurer, Commissary-General, &c.*

The Secretary, Treasurer, and Commissary-General shall be chosen by joint ballot of the senators and representatives assembled in one room.

The records of the State shall be kept in the office of the Secretary, and he shall attend the Governor and Council, the Senate and representatives, in person, or by deputy, as they may require.

The Secretary of State shall, at all times, have a deputy, to be by him appointed; for whose conduct in office he shall be responsible. And in case of the death, removal, or inability of the Secretary, his deputy shall exercise all the duties of the office of Secretary of this State, until another shall be appointed. The Secretary, before he enters upon the business of his office, shall give bond, with sufficient



sureties, in a reasonable sum, for the use of the State, for the punctual performance of his trust

*County Treasurers, &c.*

The county treasurers, and registers of deeds, shall be elected by the inhabitants of the several towns in the several counties in the State, according to the method now practised, and the laws of the State.

*Provided, nevertheless,* The Legislature shall have authority to alter the manner of certifying the votes, and the mode of electing those officers; but not so as to deprive the people of the right they now have of electing them.

And the Legislature, on the application of the major part of the inhabitants of any county, shall have authority to divide the same into two districts for registering deeds, if to them it shall appear necessary, each district to elect a register of deeds; and before they enter upon the business of their office, shall be respectively sworn faithfully to discharge the duties thereof, and shall severally give bonds, with sufficient sureties, in a reasonable sum, for the use of the county, for the punctual performance of their respective trusts

*Judiciary Power.*

The tenure that all commissioned officers shall have by law in their offices, shall be expressed in their respective commissions—all judicial officers, duly appointed, commissioned, and sworn, shall hold their offices during good behaviour, excepting those concerning whom there is a different provision made in this Constitution; *Provided, nevertheless,* the Governor,\* with consent of Council, may remove them upon the address of both houses of the Legislature.

Each branch of the Legislature, as well as the Governor and Council, shall have authority to require the opinions of the justices of the Superior Court, upon important questions of law, and upon solemn occasions.

In order that the people may not suffer from the long continuance in place of any justice of the peace, who shall fail in discharging the important duties of his office with ability and fidelity, all commissions of justices of the peace shall become void at the expiration of five years from their respective dates; and upon the expiration of any commission, the same may, if necessary, be renewed, or another person appointed, as shall most conduce to the well being of the State.

All causes of marriage, divorce, and alimony, and all appeals from the respective judges of probate, shall be heard and tried by the Superior Court until the Legislature shall by law make other provisions.

The General Court is empowered to give to justices of the peace jurisdiction in civil causes, when the damages demanded shall not

\* NOTE. President, in the original.

exceed *four pounds*, and the title of real estate is not concerned ; but with right of appeal to either party to some other court, so that a trial by jury in the last resort may be had.

No person shall hold the office of a judge in any court, or judge of probate, or sheriff of any county, after he has attained the age of seventy years.

No judge of any court, or justice of the peace, shall act as an attorney, or be of counsel to any party, or originate any civil suit, in matters which shall come or be brought before him as judge, or justice of the peace.

All matters relating to the probate of wills, and granting letters of administration, shall be exercised by the judges of probate, in such manner as the Legislature have directed, or may hereafter direct ; and the judges of probate shall hold their courts at such place or places, on such fixed days as the conveniency of the people may require, and the Legislature from time to time appoint.

No judge or register of probate shall be of counsel, act as advocate, or receive any fees as advocate or counsel, in any probate business which is pending, or may be brought into any court of probate in the county of which he is judge or register.

#### *Clerks of Courts.*

The judges of the courts (those of the probate excepted,) shall appoint their respective clerks, to hold their office during pleasure ; and no such clerks shall act as an attorney, or be of counsel, in any cause in the court of which he is clerk, nor shall he draw any writ originating a civil action.

#### *Encouragement of Literature, &c.*

Knowledge and learning, generally diffused through a community, being essential to the preservation of a free government ; and spreading the opportunities and advantages of education through the various parts of the country, being highly conducive to promote this end : it shall be the duty of the legislators and magistrates, in all future periods of this government, to cherish the interests of literature and the sciences, and all seminaries and public schools, to encourage private and public institutions, rewards, and immunities for the promotion of agriculture, arts, sciences, commerce, trades, manufactures, and natural history of the country ; to countenance and inculcate the principles of humanity and general benevolence, public and private charity, industry and economy, honesty and punctuality, sincerity, sobriety, and all social affections and generous sentiments among the people.

*Oath and subscriptions ; exclusion from offices ; commissions ; writs ; confirmation of laws ; habeas corpus ; the enacting style ; continuance of officers ; provision for a future revision of the Constitution, &c.*

Any person chosen Governor, counselor, senator, or representa-



tive, military or civil officer (town officers excepted), accepting the trust, shall, before he proceeds to execute the duties of his office, make and subscribe the following declaration, viz. :

I, A. B., do solemnly swear, that I will bear faith and true allegiance to the State of New Hampshire, and will support the Constitution thereof. *So help me God.*

I, A. B., do solemnly and sincerely swear and affirm, that I will faithfully and impartially discharge and perform all the duties incumbent on me as \_\_\_\_\_ according to the best of my abilities, agreeably to the rules and regulations of this Constitution, and the laws of the State of New Hampshire. *So help me God.*

Any person having taken and subscribed the oath of allegiance, and the same being filed in the Secretary's office, he shall not be obliged to take said oath again.

*Provided always,* When any person chosen or appointed as aforesaid, shall be of the denomination called Quakers, or shall be scrupulous of swearing, and shall decline taking the said oaths, such shall take and subscribe them, omitting the word *swear*, and likewise the words *so help me God*, subjoining, instead thereof, *this I do under the pains and penalties of perjury.*

And the oaths or affirmations shall be taken and subscribed by the Governor, before the President of the Senate, in presence of both houses of the Legislature, and by the senators and representatives first elected under this Constitution, as altered and amended, before the President of the State, and a majority of the Council then in office, and forever afterwards before the Governor and Council for the time being; and by all other officers, before such persons, and in such manner as the Legislature shall from time to time appoint.

All commissions shall be in the name of the State of New Hampshire, signed by the Governor, and attested by the Secretary or his deputy, and shall have the great seal of the State affixed thereto.

All writs issuing out of the clerk's office in any of the courts of law, shall be in the name of the State of New Hampshire; shall be under the seal of the court whence they issue, and bear test of the chief, first, or senior justice of the court; but when such justice shall be interested, then the writ shall bear test of some other justice of the court, to which the same shall be returnable; and shall be signed by the clerk of such court.

All indictments, presentments, and informations shall conclude *against the peace and dignity of the State.*

The estate of such persons as may destroy their own lives shall not for that offence be forfeited, but descend or ascend in the same manner as if such persons had died in a natural way. Nor shall

any article which shall accidentally occasion the death of any person, be henceforth deemed a deodand, or in any wise forfeited on account of such misfortune.

All the laws which have heretofore been adopted, used, and approved in the Province, Colony, or State of New Hampshire, and usually practised on in courts of law, shall remain and be in full force until altered and repealed by the Legislature: such parts thereof only excepted as are repugnant to the rights and liberties contained in this Constitution: Provided, that nothing herein contained, when compared with the twenty-third article in the bill of rights, shall be construed to affect the laws already made respecting the persons or estates of absentees.

The privilege and benefit of the habeas corpus shall be enjoyed in this State, in the most free, easy, cheap, expeditious, and ample manner, and shall not be suspended by the Legislature, except upon the most urgent and pressing occasions, and for a time not exceeding three months.

The enacting style, in making and passing acts, statutes, and laws, shall be—*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives, in General Court convened.*

No governor, or judge of the Supreme Judicial Court, shall hold any office or place under the authority of this State, except such as by this Constitution they are admitted to hold, saving that the judges of the said Court may hold the offices of justice of the peace throughout the State; nor shall they hold any place or office, or receive any pension or salary, from any other State, government, or power whatever.

No person shall be capable of exercising, at the same time, more than one of the following offices within this State, viz., judge of probate, sheriff, register of deeds; and never more than two offices of profit, which may be held by appointment of the Governor, or Governor and Council, or Senate and House of Representatives, or superior and inferior courts, military offices and offices of justices of the peace excepted.

No person holding the office of judge of any court (except special judges), Secretary, Treasurer of the State, Attorney-General, Commissary-General, military officers receiving pay from the continent or this State (excepting officers of the militia occasionally called forth on an emergency), register of deeds, sheriff, or officers of the customs, including naval officers, collectors of excise, and State and continental taxes, hereafter appointed, and not having settled their accounts with the respective officers with whom it is their duty to settle such accounts, members of Congress, or any person holding any office under the United States, shall, at the same time, hold the office of Governor, or have a seat in the Senate, or House of Representatives, or Council; but his being chosen, or appointed to, and accepting the same, shall operate as a resignation of his seat in the chair, Senate, or House of Representatives, or Council; and the



places so vacated shall be filled up. No member of the Council shall have a seat in the Senate or House of Representatives.

No person shall ever be admitted to hold a seat in the Legislature, or any office of trust or importance under this government, who, in the due course of law, has been convicted of bribery or corruption in obtaining an election or appointment.

In all cases where sums of money are mentioned in this Constitution, the value thereof shall be computed in silver, at *six shillings and eight pence* per ounce.

To the end that there may be no failure of justice, or danger to the State, by the alterations and amendments made in the Constitution, the General Court is hereby fully authorized and directed to fix the time when the alterations and amendments shall take effect, and make the necessary arrangements accordingly.\*

It shall be the duty of the selectmen and assessors of the several towns and places in this State, in warning the first annual meeting for the choice of senators, after the expiration of seven years from the adoption of this Constitution, as amended, to assert expressly in the warrant, this purpose, among the others for the meeting, to wit: to take the sense of the qualified voters on the subject of a revision of the Constitution; and the meeting being warned accordingly, and not otherwise, the moderator shall take the sense of the qualified voters present, as to the necessity of a revision; and a return of the number of votes for and against such necessity, shall be made by the clerk, sealed up, and directed to the General Court, at their next session; and if it shall appear to the General Court, by such return, that the sense of the people of the State has been taken, and that, in the opinion of the majority of the qualified voters in this State, present and voting at said meetings, there is a necessity for a revision of the Constitution, it shall be the duty of the General Court to call a convention for that purpose; otherwise the General Court shall direct the sense of the people to be taken, and then proceed in the manner before mentioned. The delegates to be chosen in the same manner, and proportioned as the representatives to the General Court; provided that no alteration shall be made in this Constitution, before the same shall be laid before the towns and unincorporated places, and approved by two-thirds of the qualified voters present and voting on the subject.

And the same method of taking the sense of the people as to a revision of the Constitution, and calling a Convention for that purpose, shall be observed afterwards, at the expiration of every seven years.

This form of government shall be enrolled on parchment, and deposited in the Secretary's office, and be a part of the laws of the land; and printed copies thereof shall be prefixed to the books containing the laws of this State in all future editions thereof.

\* See Act of Dec. 14, 1792.

## VERMONT.



THE first settlement in this State was at Fort Dummer, in the S. E. part of the State, from Mass. New York and New Hampshire respectively laid claim to the territory till 1764, when N. Y. obtained a grant from the British Parliament, which put an end to the claim of N. H. N. Y. thereupon attempted to enforce her jurisdiction, which was resisted by the inhabitants. They claimed to be independent both of N. H. and N. Y., and organized themselves in armed bands, with Ethan Allen at their head, under the celebrated name of the Green Mountain Boys. The contest continued and increased till the breaking out of the Revolutionary War. Owing to this claim of N. Y., Congress refused to admit Vermont into the confederation. Vermont, in 1790, paid to N. Y. \$30,000 to withdraw her claim, and in 1791 was admitted to the union.

Notwithstanding this fourteenth State was not admitted into the union until after the Revolutionary contest was over, yet she bore an important part in that transaction, and her hardy sons gave ample proof of their bravery. A range of mountains, covered with evergreens, nearly divides this State in its centre from north to south. Hence its name, and hence the appellation *Green Mountain Boys*. The first Constitution of this State was formed in 1777; the present one was adopted July 3, 1793. Area, 9,700 sq. m. Population, in 1850, 313,611.

## CONSTITUTION.

### CHAPTER I

*A Declaration of Rights of the Inhabitants of the State of Vermont.*

ART. 1. That all men are born equally free and independent, and have certain natural, inherent, and inalienable rights, amongst which



are the enjoying and defending life and liberty, acquiring, possessing, and protecting property, and pursuing and obtaining happiness and safety: therefore, no male person, born in this country, or brought from over sea, ought to be holden by law to serve any person as a servant, slave, or apprentice, after he arrives at the age of twenty-one years, nor female, in like manner, after she arrives to the age of eighteen years, unless they are bound by their own consent, after they arrive to such age, or bound by the law for the payment of debts, damages, fines, costs, or the like.

2. That private property ought to be subservient to public uses when necessity requires it; nevertheless, when any person's property is taken for the use of the public, the owner ought to receive an equivalent in money.

3. That all men have a natural and inalienable right to worship Almighty God according to the dictates of their own consciences and understandings, as in their opinion shall be regulated by the word of God: and that no man ought to, or of right can, be compelled to attend any religious worship, or erect or support any place of worship, or maintain any minister, contrary to the dictates of his conscience; nor can any man be justly deprived or abridged of any civil right as a citizen, on account of his religious sentiments or peculiar mode of religious worship; and that no authority can or ought to be vested in or assumed by any power whatever, that shall in any case interfere with, or in any manner control, the rights of conscience in the free exercise of religious worship. Nevertheless, every sect or denomination of Christians ought to observe the Sabbath, or Lord's day, and keep up some sort of religious worship, which to them shall seem most agreeable to the revealed will of God.

4. Every person within this State ought to find a certain remedy, by having recourse to the laws, for all injuries or wrongs which he may receive in his person, property, or character; he ought to obtain right and justice freely, and without being obliged to purchase it; completely, and without any denial; promptly, and without delay; conformably to the law.

5. That the people of this State, by their legal representatives, have the sole, inherent, and exclusive right of governing and regulating the internal police of the same.

6. That all power being originally inherent in, and consequently derived from the people, therefore, all officers of government, whether legislative or executive, are their trustees and servants, and at all times, in a legal way, accountable to them.

7. That government is, or ought to be, instituted for the common benefit, protection, and security of the people, nation, or community, and not for the particular emolument or advantage of any single man, family, or set of men, who are a part only of that community; and that the community hath an indubitable, inalienable, and infeasible right to reform or alter government, in such manner as

shall be, by that community, judged most conducive to the public weal.

8. That all elections ought to be free and without corruption, and that all freemen, having a sufficient evidence, common interest with, and attachment to the community, have a right to elect officers, and be elected into office, agreeably to the regulations made in this Constitution.

9. That every member of society hath a right to be protected in the enjoyment of life, liberty, and property, and therefore is bound to contribute his proportion towards the expense of that protection, and yield his personal service, when necessary, or an equivalent thereto; but no part of any person's property can be justly taken from him, or applied to public uses, without his consent, or that of the representative body of freemen; nor can any man, who is conscientiously scrupulous of bearing arms, be justly compelled thereto, if he will pay such equivalent; nor are the people bound by any law but such as they have in like manner assented to, for their common good; and previous to any law being made to raise a tax, the purpose for which it is to be raised ought to appear evident to the Legislature to be of more service to the community than the money would be if not collected.

10. That, in all prosecutions for criminal offences, a person hath a right to be heard by himself and his counsel; to demand the cause and nature of his accusation; to be confronted with the witnesses; to call for evidence in his favor, and a speedy public trial, by an impartial jury of his country; without the unanimous consent of which jury, he cannot be found guilty; nor can he be compelled to give evidence against himself; nor can any person be justly deprived of his liberty, except by the laws of the land, or the judgment of his peers.

11. That the people have a right to hold themselves, their houses, papers, and possessions, free from search or seizure; and, therefore, warrants without oath or affirmation first made, affording sufficient foundation for them, and whereby an officer or messenger may be commanded or required to search such suspected places; or to seize any person or persons, his, her, or their property, not particularly described, are contrary to that right, and ought not to be granted.

12. That when an issue in fact, proper for the cognizance of a jury, is joined in a court of law, the parties have a right to trial by jury, which ought to be held sacred.

13. That the people have a right to a freedom of speech, and of writing and publishing their sentiments concerning the transactions of government, and therefore the freedom of the press ought not to be restrained.

14. The freedom of deliberation, speech, and debate, in the Legislature, is so essential to the rights of the people, that it cannot be the foundation of any accusation, or prosecution, action, or complaint, in any other court or place whatsoever.



15. The power of suspending laws, or the execution of laws, ought never to be exercised but by the Legislature, or by authority derived from it, to be exercised in such particular cases as this Constitution, or the Legislature shall provide for.

16. That the people have a right to bear arms for the defence of themselves and the State ; and, as standing armies in time of peace are dangerous to liberty, they ought not to be kept up ; and that the military should be kept under strict subordination to, and governed by, the civil power.

17. That no person in this State can, in any case, be subjected to law martial, or to any penalties or pains by virtue of that law, except those employed in the army, and the militia in actual service.

18. The frequent recurrence to fundamental principles, and firm adherence to justice, moderation, temperance, industry, and frugality, are absolutely necessary to preserve the blessings of liberty, and keep government free ; the people ought, therefore, to pay particular attention to these points, in the choice of officers and representatives, and have a right, in a legal way, to exact a due and constant regard to them, from their legislators and magistrates, in making and executing such laws as are necessary for the good government of the State.

19. That all people have a natural and inherent right to emigrate from one State to another that will receive them.

20. That the people have a right to assemble together to consult for their common good ; to instruct their representatives : and apply to the Legislature for redress of grievances by address, petition, or remonstrance.

21. That no person shall be liable to be transported out of this State for trial of any offence committed within the same.

## CHAPTER II.

### *Plan or Form of Government.*

SEC. 1. The Commonwealth or State of Vermont shall be governed hereafter by a Governor or Lieutenant-Governor, Council, and an assembly of representatives of the freemen of the same, in manner and form following :

2. The supreme legislative power shall be vested in a House of Representatives of the freemen of the Commonwealth or State of Vermont.

3. The supreme executive power shall be vested in a Governor, or, in his absence, a Lieutenant-Governor, and Council.

4. Courts of justice shall be maintained in every county in this State, and also in new counties, when formed ; which courts shall be open for the trial of all causes proper for their cognizance ; and justice shall be therein impartially administered, without corruption or unnecessary delay. The judges of the Supreme Court shall be justices of the peace throughout the State ; and the several

judges of the county courts, in their respective counties, by virtue of their office, except in the trial of such causes as may be appealed to the county court.

5. A future Legislature may, when they shall conceive the same to be expedient and necessary, erect a Court of Chancery, with such powers as are usually exercised by that Court, or as shall appear for the interest of the commonwealth: Provided they do not constitute themselves the judges of the said Court.

6. The legislative, executive, and judiciary departments shall be separate and distinct, so that neither exercise the powers properly belonging to the other.

7. In order that the freemen of this State may enjoy the benefit of election as equally as may be, each town within this State that consists or may consist of eighty taxable inhabitants within one septenary, or seven years next after the establishing this Constitution, may hold elections therein, and choose each two representatives; and each other inhabited town in this State may, in like manner, choose each one representative to represent them in General Assembly, during the said septenary, or seven years; and after that, each inhabited town may, in like manner, hold such election, and choose each one representative, forever thereafter.

8. The House of Representatives of the freemen of this State shall consist of persons most noted for wisdom and virtue, to be chosen by ballot, by the freemen of every town in this State, respectively, on the first Tuesday in September annually forever.

9. The representatives so chosen, a majority of whom shall constitute a quorum for transacting any other business than raising a State tax, for which two-thirds of the members elected shall be present, shall meet on the second Thursday of the succeeding October, and shall be styled *The General Assembly of the State of Vermont*: they shall have power to choose their Speaker, Secretary of State, their clerk, and other necessary officers of the House—sit on their own adjournments—prepare bills, and enact them into laws—judge of the elections and qualifications of their own members: they may expel members, but not for causes known to their own constituents antecedent to their own elections: they may administer oaths and affirmations in matters depending before them, redress grievances, impeach State criminals, grant charters of incorporation, constitute towns, boroughs, cities, and counties: they may, annually, on their first session after their election, in conjunction with the Council, or oftener if need be, elect judges of the Supreme and several county and probate courts, sheriffs, and justices of the peace; and also with the Council may elect major-generals and brigadier-generals, from time to time, as often as there shall be occasion; and they shall have all other powers necessary for the Legislature of a free and sovereign State: but they shall have no power to add to, alter, abolish, or infringe any part of this Constitution.

10. The Supreme Executive Council of this State shall consist



of a Governor, Lieutenant-Governor, and twelve persons, chosen in the following manner, viz.: The freemen of each town shall, on the day of the election for choosing representatives to attend the General Assembly, bring in their votes for Governor, with his name fairly written, to the constable, who shall seal them up, and write on them, *votes for the Governor*, and deliver them to the representatives chosen to attend the General Assembly; and at the opening of the General Assembly, there shall be a committee appointed out of the Council and Assembly, who, after being duly sworn to the faithful discharge of their trust, shall proceed to receive, sort, and count the votes for the Governor, and declare the person who has the major part of the votes, to be Governor for the year ensuing. And if there be no choice made, then the Council and General Assembly, by their joint ballot, shall make choice of a Governor. The Lieutenant-Governor and Treasurer shall be chosen in the manner above directed. And each freeman shall give in twelve votes, for twelve counselors, in the same manner, and the twelve highest in nomination shall serve for the ensuing year as counselors.

11. The Governor, and, in his absence, the Lieutenant-Governor, with the Council, a major part of whom, including the Governor, or Lieutenant-Governor, shall be a quorum to transact business, shall have power to commission all officers, and also to appoint officers, except where provision is, or shall be otherwise made by law, or this frame of government; and shall supply every vacancy in any office, occasioned by death, or otherwise, until the office can be filled in the manner directed by law or this Constitution.

They are to correspond with other states, transact business with officers of government, civil and military, and to prepare such business as may appear to them necessary to lay before the General Assembly. They shall sit as judges to hear and determine on impeachments, taking to their assistance, for advice only, the judges of the Supreme Court, and shall have power to grant pardons, and remit fines, in all cases whatsoever, except in treason and murder; in which they shall have power to grant reprieves, but not to pardon, until after the end of the next session of the Assembly; and except in cases of impeachment, in which there shall be no remission or mitigation of punishment, but by act of legislation.

They are also to take care that the laws be faithfully executed. They are to expedite the execution of such measures as may be resolved upon by the General Assembly; and they may draw upon the treasury for such sums as may be appropriated by the House of Representatives. They may also lay embargoes, or prohibit the exportation of any commodity, for any time not exceeding thirty days, in the recess of the House only. They may grant such licenses as shall be directed by law; and shall have power to call together the General Assembly, when necessary, before the day to which they shall stand adjourned. The Governor shall be captain-general and commander-in-chief of the forces of the State, but shall not command

in person, except advised thereto by the Council, and then only so long as they shall approve thereof. And the Lieutenant-Governor shall, by virtue of his office, be Lieutenant-General of all the forces of the State. The Governor, or Lieutenant-Governor, and the Council, shall meet at the time and place with the General Assembly: the Lieutenant-Governor shall, during the presence of the Commander-in-Chief, vote and act as one of the Council: and the Governor, and, in his absence, the Lieutenant-Governor, shall, by virtue of their offices, preside in Council, and have a casting, but no other vote. Every member of the Council shall be a justice of the peace, for the whole State, by virtue of his office. The Governor and Council shall have a Secretary, and keep fair books of their proceedings, wherein any counselor may enter his dissent, with his reason to support it; and the Governor may appoint a Secretary for himself and his Council.

12. The representatives, having met and chosen their Speaker and Clerk, shall, each of them, before they proceed to business, take and subscribe, as well the oath or affirmation of allegiance hereinafter directed, except where they shall produce certificates of their having heretofore taken and subscribed the same, as the following oath or affirmation, viz.

"You, ———, do solemnly swear (or affirm) that, as a member of this Assembly, you will not propose or assent to any bill, vote, or resolution, which shall appear to you injurious to the people, nor do or consent to any act or thing whatsoever that shall have a tendency to lessen or abridge their rights and privileges, as declared by the Constitution of this State; but will, in all things, conduct yourself as a faithful, honest representative, and guardian of the people, according to the best of your judgment and abilities: (*in case of an oath*) so help you God. (*And in case of an affirmation*) under the pains and penalties of perjury."

13. The doors of the house in which the General Assembly of this commonwealth shall sit, shall be open for the admission of all persons who behave decently, except only when the welfare of the State may require them to be shut.

14. The votes and proceedings of the General Assembly shall be printed, when one-third of the members think it necessary, as soon as convenient after the end of each session, with the yeas and nays on any question, when required by any member, except where the votes shall be taken by ballot, in which case every member shall have a right to insert the reasons of his vote upon the minutes.

15. The style of the laws of this State; in future to be passed, shall be: *It is hereby enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Vermont.*

16. To the end that laws, before they are enacted, may be more maturely considered, and the inconvenience of hasty determinations, as much as possible, prevented, all bills which originate in the Assembly shall be laid before the Governor and Council for their revi-



sion and concurrence, or proposals of amendment; who shall return the same to the Assembly, with their proposals of amendment, if any, in writing; and if the same are not agreed to by the Assembly, it shall be in the power of the Governor and Council to suspend the passing of such bill until the next session of the Legislature: Provided, that if the Governor and Council shall neglect or refuse to return any such bill to the Assembly, with written proposals of amendment, within five days, or before the rising of the Legislature, the same shall become a law.

17. No money shall be drawn out of the treasury, unless first appropriated by act of legislation.

18. No person shall be elected a representative until he has resided two years in this State; the last of which shall be in the town for which he is elected.

19. No member of the Council or House of Representatives shall, directly or indirectly, receive any fee or reward to bring forward or advocate any bill, petition, or other business to be transacted in the Legislature; or advocate any cause, as counsel, in either house of legislation, except when employed in behalf of the State.

20. No person ought, in any case, or at any time, to be declared guilty of treason or felony by the Legislature.

21. Every man of the full age of twenty-one years, having resided in this State for the space of one whole year next before the election of representatives, and is of a quiet and peaceable behavior, and will take the following oath or affirmation, shall be entitled to all the privileges of a freeman of this State.

“You solemnly swear (or affirm) that whenever you give your vote of suffrage, touching any matter that concerns the State of Vermont, you will do it so as in your conscience you shall judge will most conduce to the best good of the same, as established by the Constitution, without fear or favor of any man.”

22. The inhabitants of this State shall be trained and armed for its defense, under such regulations, restrictions, and exceptions as Congress, agreeably to the Constitution of the United States, and the Legislature of this State, shall direct. The several companies of militia shall, as often as vacancies happen, elect their captain and other officers, and the captains and subalterns shall nominate and recommend the field-officers of their respective regiments, who shall appoint their staff-officers.

23. All commissions shall be in the name of the freemen of the State of Vermont, sealed with the State seal, signed by the Governor, and in his absence the Lieutenant-Governor, and attested by the Secretary; which seal shall be kept by the Governor.

24. Every officer of State, whether judicial or executive, shall be liable to be impeached by the General Assembly, either when in office or after his resignation or removal, for maladministration. All impeachments shall be before the Governor, or Lieutenant-Governor, and Council, who shall hear and determine the same, and may award

costs ; and no trial or impeachment shall be a bar to a prosecution at law.

25. As every freeman, to preserve his independence, if without a sufficient estate, ought to have some profession, calling, trade, or farm, whereby he may honestly subsist, there can be no necessity for, nor use in, establishing offices of profit, the usual effects of which are dependence and servility, unbecoming freemen, in the possessors or expectants, and faction, contention, and discord among the people. But, if any man is called into public service, to the prejudice of his private affairs, he has a right to a reasonable compensation ; and whenever an office, through increase of fees or otherwise, becomes so profitable as to occasion many to apply for it, the profits ought to be lessened by the Legislature. And if any officer shall wittingly and wilfully take greater fees than the law allows him, it shall ever after disqualify him from holding any office in this State, until he shall be restored by act of legislation.

26. No person in this State shall be capable of holding or exercising more than one of the following offices at the same time, viz. : Governor, Lieutenant-Governor, Judge of the Supreme Court, Treasurer of the State, member of the Council, member of the General Assembly, Surveyor-general, or sheriff. Nor shall any person, holding any office of profit or trust, under the authority of Congress, be eligible to any appointment in the Legislature, or of holding any executive or judiciary office under this State.

27. The Treasurer of the State shall, before the Governor and Council, give sufficient security to the Secretary of the State, in behalf of the General Assembly ; and each high sheriff, before the first judge of the county court to the treasurer of their respective counties, previous to their respectively entering upon the execution of their offices, in such manner, and in sums, as shall be directed by the Legislature.

28. The Treasurer's accounts shall be annually audited, and a fair statement thereof laid before the General Assembly at their session in October.

29. Every officer, whether judicial, executive, or military, in authority under this State, before he enters upon the execution of his office, shall take and subscribe the following oath or affirmation of allegiance to this State, unless he shall produce evidence that he has before taken the same ; and also the following oath or affirmation of office, except military officers, and such as shall be exempted by the Legislature.

*The Oath or Affirmation of Office.*

“ You do solemnly swear (or affirm) that you will be true and faithful to the State of Vermont, and that you will not, directly or indirectly, do any act or thing injurious to the Constitution or Government thereof, as established by convention : (*If an oath*) so help you God. (*If an affirmation*) under the pains and penalties of perjury.”



*The Oath or Affirmation of Office.*

“ You,———, do solemnly swear (or affirm) that you will faithfully execute the office of——— for the——— of——— ; and will therein do equal right and justice to all men, to the best of your judgment and abilities, according to law : (*If an oath*) so help you God. (*If an affirmation*) under the pains and penalties of perjury.”

30. No person shall be eligible to the office of Governor or Lieutenant-Governor, until he shall have resided in this State four years next preceding the day of his election.

31. Trials of issue, proper for the cognizance of a jury, in the Supreme and county courts, shall be by jury, except where parties otherwise agree, and great care ought to be taken to prevent corruption or partiality in the choice and return or appointment of juries.

32. All prosecutions shall commence, *By the authority of the State of Vermont* ; all indictments shall conclude with these words : *against the peace and dignity of the State.* And all fines shall be proportioned to the offences.

33. The person of a debtor, where there is not strong presumption or fraud, shall not be continued in prison after delivering up and assigning over, *bona fide*, all his estate, real and personal, in possession, reversion, or remainder, for the use of his creditors, in such manner as shall be hereafter regulated by law. And all prisoners, unless in execution or committed for capital offences, when the proof is evident or presumption great, shall be bailable by sufficient sureties ; nor shall excessive bail be exacted for bailable offences.

34. All elections, whether by the people or the Legislature, shall be free and voluntary ; and any elector, who shall receive any gift or reward for his vote, in meat, drink, monies, or otherwise, shall forfeit his right to elect at that time, and suffer such other penalty as the law shall direct ; and any person who shall, directly or indirectly, give, promise, or bestow, any such rewards, to be elected, shall thereby be rendered incapable to serve for the ensuing year, and be subject to such further punishment as a future Legislature shall direct

35. All deeds and conveyances of land shall be recorded in the town clerk's office, in their respective towns ; and for want thereof, in the county clerk's office of the same county.

36. The Legislature shall regulate entails in such manner as to prevent perpetuities.

37. To deter more effectually from the commission of crimes, by continued visible punishments of long duration, and to make sanguinary punishments less necessary, means ought to be provided for punishing by hard labor those who shall be convicted of crimes not capital, whereby the criminal shall be employed for the benefit of the public, or for the reparation of injuries done to private persons : and

all persons, at proper times, ought to be permitted to see them at their labor.

38. The estate of such persons as may destroy their own lives shall not for that offence be forfeited, but descend or ascend in the same manner, as if such persons had died in a natural way. Nor shall any article, which shall accidentally occasion the death of any person, be henceforth deemed a deodand, or in any wise forfeited, on account of such misfortune.

39. Every person of good character, who comes to settle in this State, having first taken an oath or affirmation of allegiance to the same, may purchase, or by other just means acquire, hold, and transfer land or other real estate; and, after one year's residence, shall be deemed a free denizen thereof, and entitled to all rights of a natural born subject of this State, except that he shall not be capable of being elected Governor, Lieutenant-Governor, Treasurer, counselor, or representative in Assembly until after two years' residence.

40. The inhabitants of this State shall have liberty, in seasonable times, to hunt and fowl on the lands they hold, and on other lands not enclosed; and in like manner to fish in all boatable and other waters, not private property, under proper regulations, to be hereafter made and provided by the General Assembly.

41. Laws for the encouragement of virtue and prevention of vice and immorality ought to be constantly kept in force, and duly executed; and a competent number of schools ought to be maintained in each town, for the convenient instruction of youth; and one or more grammar schools be incorporated, and properly supported in each county in this State. And all religious societies or bodies of men, that may be hereafter united or incorporated for the advancement of religion and learning, or for other charitable purposes, shall be encouraged and protected in the enjoyment of the privileges, immunities, and estates, which they in justice ought to enjoy, under such regulations as the General Assembly of this State shall direct.

42. The declaration of the political rights and privileges of the inhabitants of this State, is hereby declared to be a part of the Constitution of this commonwealth, and ought not to be violated on any pretence whatsoever.

43. In order that the freedom of this commonwealth may be preserved inviolate forever, there shall be chosen, by ballot, by the freemen of this State, on the last Wednesday in March, in the year one thousand seven hundred and ninety-nine, and on the last Wednesday in March, in every seven years thereafter, thirteen persons, who shall be chosen in the same manner the Council is chosen, except they shall not be out of the Council or General Assembly, to be called the Council of Censors: who shall meet together on the first Wednesday in June next ensuing their election, the majority of whom shall be a quorum in every case, except as to calling a Convention, in which two-thirds of the whole number elected shall agree, and whose duty it shall be to inquire, whether



the Constitution has been preserved inviolate in every part during the last septenary, including the year of their service, and whether the legislative and executive branches of Government have performed their duty, as guardians of the people, or assumed to themselves, or exercised other or greater powers than they are entitled to by the Constitution : They are also to inquire, whether the public taxes have been justly laid and collected in all parts of this commonwealth : in what manner the public moneys have been disposed of : and whether the laws have been duly executed. For these purposes they shall have power to send for persons, papers, and records : they shall have authority to pass public censures, to order impeachments, and to recommend to the Legislature the repealing such laws as shall appear to them to have been passed contrary to the principles of the Constitution : These powers they shall continue to have for and during the space of one year from the day of their election, and no longer. The said Council of Censors shall also have power to call a Convention, to meet within two years after their sitting, if there appears to them an absolute necessity of amending any article of this Constitution, which may be defective : explaining such as may be thought not clearly expressed : and of adding such as are necessary for the preservation of the rights and happiness of the people : but the articles to be amended, and the amendments proposed, and such articles as are proposed to be added or abolished, shall be promulgated at least six months before the day appointed for the election of such Convention, for the previous consideration of the people, that they may have an opportunity of instructing their delegates on the subject.

## AMENDMENTS TO THE CONSTITUTION.

Adopted June 26, 1828. ART. 1. No person, who is not already a freeman of this State, shall be entitled to exercise the privilege of a freeman, unless he be a natural-born citizen of this, or some one of the United States, or until he shall have been naturalized agreeably to the acts of Congress.

Adopted Jan. 6, 1836. 2. The most numerous branch of the Legislature of this State shall hereafter be styled the House of Representatives.

3. The supreme legislative power of this State shall hereafter be exercised by a Senate and the House of Representatives, which shall be styled *The General Assembly of the State of Vermont*. Each shall have and exercise the like powers in all acts of legislation, and no bill, resolution, or other thing, which shall have been passed by the one, shall have the effect of, or be declared to be, a law, without the concurrence of the other. Provided, that all revenue bills shall originate in the House of Representatives ; but the Senate may pro-

pose or concur with amendments, as on other bills. Neither house, during the session of the General Assembly, shall, without the consent of the other, adjourn for more than three days, nor to any other place than that in which the two houses shall be sitting, and in case of disagreement between the two houses, with respect to adjournment, the Governor may adjourn them to such time as he shall think proper.

4. The Senate shall be composed of thirty senators, to be of the freemen of the county for which they are elected respectively, who are thirty years of age or upwards, and to be annually elected by the freemen of each county respectively. Each county shall be entitled to one senator at least, and the remainder of the senators shall be apportioned to the several counties, according to their population, as the same was ascertained by the last census, taken under the authority of the United States, regard being always had in such apportionment, to the counties having the greatest fraction. But the several counties shall, until after the next census of the United States, be entitled to elect, and have their senators in the following proportion: to wit, Bennington county, two; Windham county, three; Rutland county, three; Windsor county, four; Addison county, three; Orange county, three; Washington county, two; Chittenden county, two; Caledonia county, two; Franklin county, three; Orleans county, one; Essex county, one; Grand Isle county, one. The Legislature shall make a new apportionment of the senators to the several counties, after the taking of each census of the United States, or census taken for the purpose of such apportionment by order of the Government of this State, regarding the above provisions in this article.

5. The freemen of the several towns in each county shall annually give their votes for the senators apportioned to such county, at the same time, and under the same regulations, as are now provided for the election of counselors. And the person or persons, equal in number to the number of senators, apportioned to such county, having the greatest number of legal votes in such county respectively, shall be the senator or senators of such county.

At every election of senators, after the votes shall have been taken, the constable, or presiding officer, assisted by the selectmen and civil authority present, shall sort and count the said votes, and make two lists of the names of each person, with the number of votes given for each, annexed to his name, a record of which shall be made in the town clerk's office and shall seal up said lists separately, and write, on each, the name of the town, and these words: *Votes for Senator*, or *Votes for Senators*, as the case may be; one of which lists shall be delivered, by the presiding officer, to the representative of said town (if any), and if none be chosen, to the representative of an adjoining town, to be transmitted to the ——— of the Senate; the other list, the said presiding officer shall, within ten days, deliver to the clerk of the county for the same county; and the clerk of each



county court respectively, or in case of his absence or disability, the sheriff of such county, or in case of the absence or disability of both, the high bailiff of such county, on the tenth day after such election, shall publicly open, sort, and count said votes, and make a record of the same, in the office of the clerk of such county court, a copy of which he shall transmit to the Senate; and shall also, within ten days thereafter, transmit to the person or persons elected, a certificate of his or their election: Provided, however, that the General Assembly shall have power to regulate, by law, the mode of balloting for senators within the several counties, and to prescribe the means and the manner, by which the result of the balloting shall be ascertained, and through which the senators chosen shall be certified of their election, and for filling all vacancies in the Senate, which shall happen by death, resignation, or otherwise. But they shall not have power to apportion the senators to the several counties, otherwise than according to the population thereof, agreeably to the provisions herein before ordained.

6. The Senate shall have the like powers to decide on the election and qualifications of, and to expel any of its members, make its own rules, and appoint its own officers, as are incident to, or are possessed by, the House of Representatives. A majority shall constitute a quorum. The Lieutenant-Governor shall be President of the Senate, except when he shall exercise the office of Governor, or when his office shall be vacant, or in his absence, in which cases the Senate shall appoint one of its own members to be President of the Senate, *pro tempore*, and the President of the Senate shall have a casting vote, but no other.

7. The Senate shall have the sole power of trying and deciding upon all impeachments: when sitting for that purpose they shall be on oath or affirmation, and no person shall be convicted without the concurrence of two-thirds of the members present. Judgment, in cases of impeachment, shall not extend further than to removal from office, and disqualification to hold or enjoy any office of honor, or profit, or trust, under this State. But the party convicted shall, nevertheless, be liable and subject to indictment, trial, judgment, and punishment, according to law.

8. The supreme executive power of the State shall be exercised by the Governor, or in case of his absence or disability, by the Lieutenant-Governor, who shall have all the powers and perform all the duties vested in and enjoined upon the Governor and Council by the eleventh and twenty-seventh sections of the second chapter [part the second,] of the Constitution as at present established, excepting that he shall not sit as a judge in case of impeachment, nor grant reprieve or pardon in any such case; nor shall he command the forces of the State in person, in time of war or insurrection, unless by the advice and consent of the Senate, and no longer than they shall approve thereof. The Governor may have a Secretary of civil and military affairs, to be by him appointed, during pleasure,

whose services he may at all times command; and for whose compensation provision shall be made by law.

9. The votes for Governor, Lieutenant-Governor, and Treasurer of the State shall be sorted and counted, and the result declared by a Committee, appointed by the Senate and House of Representatives. If at any time there shall be no election by the freemen, of Governor or Lieutenant-Governor, or Treasurer of the State, the Senate and House of Representatives shall, by a joint ballot, elect to fill the office, not filled by the freemen as aforesaid, one of the three candidates for such office (if there be so many) for whom the greatest number of votes shall have been returned.

10. The Secretary of State, and all officers whose elections are not otherwise provided for, and who, under the existing provisions of the Constitution, are elected by the Council and House of Representatives, shall hereafter be elected by the Senate and House of Representatives, in joint Assembly, at which the presiding officer of the Senate shall preside, and such presiding officer in such joint Assembly, shall have a casting vote, and no other.

11. Every bill which shall have passed the Senate and House of Representatives, shall, before it become a law, be presented to the Governor; if he approve, he shall sign it; if not, he shall return it, with his objections in writing, to the house in which it shall have originated, which shall proceed to reconsider it. If, upon such reconsideration, a majority of the house shall pass the bill, it shall, together with the objections, be sent to the other house, by which it shall likewise be reconsidered, and if approved by a majority of that house, it shall become a law. But in all such cases the votes of both houses shall be taken by yeas and nays, and the names of the persons voting for or against the bill shall be entered on the journal of each house respectively. If any bill shall not be returned by the Governor, as aforesaid, within five days (Sundays excepted,) after it shall have been presented to him, the same shall become a law, in like manner as if he had signed it, unless the two houses, by their adjournment within three days after the presentment of such bill, shall prevent its return; in which case it shall not become a law.

12. The writ of habeas corpus shall in no case be suspended. It shall be a writ issuable of right; and the General Assembly shall make provision to render it a speedy and effectual remedy in all cases proper therefor.

13. Such parts and provisions, only, of the Constitution of this State, established by Convention on the 9th of July, 1793, as are altered or suspended by any of the foregoing amendments, or are repugnant thereto, shall hereafter cease to have effect.

14. The assistant judges of the county court shall be elected by the freemen of their respective counties.

15. Sheriffs and high bailiffs shall be elected by the freemen of their respective counties.

16. State's attorneys shall be elected by the freemen of their respective counties.



17. Judges of probate shall be elected by the freemen of their respective probate districts.

18. Justices of the peace shall be elected by the freemen of their respective towns; and towns having less than one thousand inhabitants may elect any number of justices of the peace not exceeding *five*; towns having one thousand, and less than two thousand inhabitants, may elect *seven*; towns having two thousand, and less than three thousand inhabitants, may elect *ten*; towns having three thousand, and less than five thousand inhabitants, may elect *twelve*; and towns having five thousand, or more, inhabitants, may elect *fifteen* justices of the peace.

19. All the officers named in the preceding articles of amendment (*articles 14 to 18*) shall be annually elected by ballot, and shall hold their offices for one year, said year commencing on the first day of December next after their election.

20. The election of the several officers mentioned in the preceding articles (*articles 14 to 18*), excepting town representatives, shall be made at the times and in the manner now directed in the constitution for the choice of senators. And the presiding officer of each freemen's meeting, after the votes shall have been taken, sorted and counted, shall, in open meeting, make a certificate of the names of each person voted for, with the number of votes given for each, annexed to his name and designating the office for which the votes were given, a record of which shall be made in the town clerk's office, and he shall seal up said certificate, and shall write thereon the name of the town and the words, *Certificate of votes for* ———, and add thereto, in writing, the title of the office voted for, as the case may be, and shall deliver such certificate to some representative chosen as a member of the general assembly, whose duty it shall be to cause such certificate of votes to be delivered to the committee of the general assembly appointed to canvass the same. And at the sitting of the general assembly, next after such balloting for the officers aforesaid, there shall be a committee appointed of and by the general assembly, who shall be sworn to the faithful discharge of their duty, and whose duty it shall be to examine such certificates and ascertain the number of votes given for each candidate, and the persons receiving the largest number of votes for the respective offices, shall be declared duly elected, and by such committee be reported to the general assembly, and the officers so elected shall be commissioned by the governor. And if two or more persons designated for any one of said offices shall have received an equal number of votes, the general assembly shall elect one of such persons to such office.

21. The term of office of the governor, lieutenant governor, and treasurer of the state, respectively, shall commence when they shall be chosen and qualified, and shall continue for the term of one year, or until their successors shall be chosen and qualified, or to the adjournment of the session of the legislature, at which, by the con-

stitution and laws, their successors are required to be chosen, and not after such adjournment. And the legislature shall provide, by general law, declaring what officer shall act as governor whenever there shall be a vacancy in both the offices of governor and lieutenant governor, occasioned by a failure to elect, or by the removal from office, or by the death, resignation, or inability of both governor and lieutenant governor, to exercise the powers and discharge the duties of the office of governor; and such officer, so designated, shall exercise the powers and discharge the duties appertaining to the office of governor accordingly, until the disability shall be removed, or a governor shall be elected. And in case there shall be a vacancy in the office of treasurer, by reason of any of the causes enumerated, the governor shall appoint a treasurer for the time being, who shall act as treasurer until the disability shall be removed, or a new election shall be made.

22. The treasurer of the state shall, before entering upon the duties of his office, give sufficient security to the secretary of state, in behalf of the state of Vermont, before the governor of the state, or one of the judges of the supreme court. And sheriffs and high bailiffs, before entering upon the duties of their respective offices, shall give sufficient security to the treasurer of their respective counties, before one of the judges of the supreme court, or the two assistant judges of the county court of their respective counties, in such manner and in such sums as shall be directed by the legislature.

23. The senate shall be composed of thirty senators, to be of the freemen of the county for which they are elected, respectively, who shall have attained the age of thirty years, and they shall be elected annually by the freemen of each county respectively.

The senators shall be apportioned to the several counties, according to the population, as ascertained by the census taken under the authority of Congress in the year 1840, regard being always had, in such apportionment, to the counties having the largest fraction, and giving to each county at least one senator.

The legislature shall make a new apportionment of the senators to the several counties, after the taking of each census of the United States, or after a census taken for the purpose of such apportionment, under the authority of this state, always regarding the above provisions of this article.

NOTE. No Amendment, since 1853.



## MASSACHUSETTS.



THIS ancient Commonwealth was first permanently settled by Europeans, who landed at Plymouth, Dec. 22, 1620. The history of this State is full of interest. Its name was probably derived from two Indian words: *Mos* and *Wetuset*—the former signifying an *Indian's arrow-head*, and the latter a *hill*.

The territory of Massachusetts, for many years, comprised two separate colonies—the Plymouth colony and the colony of Massachusetts Bay. In 1692, these colonies were united under one charter, and received the name of Massachusetts. The American Revolution was begun in this State, and here the first American blood was spilled in achieving its noble conquests. Massachusetts furnished more men and more money than any other of the colonies, in carrying forward the war of the Revolution. It is the most thickly settled State in the union, having about 100 inhabitants to the square mile. The Constitution was framed in 1780. It has been several times amended. Her House of Representatives is one of the largest legislative bodies in the world.—Area, 7,800 sq. m. Population, in 1850, 994,499; 1855, 1,132,369.

Boston, the capital, is the largest city in New England, with a population, in 1845, of 120,000, and is the second commercial city in the union. JOHN HANCOCK, President of the first American Congress, and first to set his bold hand to the Declaration of Independence, was a citizen of Boston. It was, also, the birth place of Benjamin Franklin, one of the five appointed to frame that interesting document.

## CONSTITUTION.

### PREAMBLE.

THE end of the institution, maintenance, and administration of government, is to secure the existence of the body politic, to protect it, and to furnish the individuals who compose it with the power of enjoying, in safety and tranquillity, their natural rights and the blessings of life : and whenever these great objects are not obtained, the people have a right to alter the government, and to take measures necessary for their safety, prosperity, and happiness.

The body politic is formed by a voluntary association of individuals. It is a social compact, by which the whole people covenants with each citizen, and each citizen with the whole people, that all shall be governed by certain laws for the common good. It is the duty of the people, therefore, in framing a Constitution of government, to provide for an equitable mode of making laws, as well as for an impartial interpretation and a faithful execution of them ; that every man may, at all times, find his security in them.

We, therefore, the people of Massachusetts, acknowledging with grateful hearts the goodness of the Great Legislator of the Universe, in affording us, in the course of his Providence, an opportunity, deliberately and peaceably, without fraud, violence, or surprise, of entering into an original, explicit, and solemn compact with each other ; and of forming a new Constitution of civil government, for ourselves and posterity ; and devoutly imploring his direction in so interesting a design, do agree upon, ordain, and establish, the following declaration of rights and frame of government, as the Constitution of the commonwealth of Massachusetts.

### PART I.

#### *A Declaration of Rights of the Inhabitants of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts.*

ART. 1. All men are born free and equal, and have certain natural, essential, and inalienable rights : among which may be reckoned the right of enjoying and defending their lives and liberties ; that of acquiring, possessing, and protecting property ; in fine, that of seeking and obtaining their safety and happiness.

2. It is the right, as well as the duty, of all men in society, publicly, and at stated seasons, to worship the Supreme Being, the Great Creator and Preserver of the Universe. And no subject shall be hurt, molested, or restrained in his person, liberty, or estate, for worshipping God in the manner and seasons most agreeable to the dictates of his own conscience ; or for his religious profession or sentiments ; provided he doth not disturb the public peace, or obstruct others in their religious worship.



3. As the happiness of a people, and the good order and preservation of civil government, essentially depend upon piety, religion, and morality; and as these cannot be generally diffused throughout the community, but by the institution of a public worship of God, and of public institutions in piety, religion, and morality; therefore, to promote their happiness, and to secure the good order and preservation of their government, the people of this commonwealth have a right to invest their Legislature with power to authorize and require, and the Legislature shall, from time to time, authorize and require, the several towns, parishes, precincts, and other bodies politic, or religious societies, to make suitable provision, at their own expense, for the institution of the public worship of God, and for the support and maintenance of public protestant teachers of piety, religion, and morality, in all cases where such provision shall not be made voluntarily.\*

All the people of the commonwealth have also a right to, and do, invest their Legislature with authority to enjoin upon all the subjects an attendance upon the instructions of the public teachers, as aforesaid, at stated times and seasons, if there be any one whose instructions they can conscientiously and conveniently attend:—

Provided, notwithstanding, that the several towns, parishes, precincts, and other bodies politic, or religious societies, shall, at all times, have the exclusive right of electing their public teachers, and of contracting with them for their support and maintenance.\*

All moneys paid by the subject to the support of public worship, and of the public teachers aforesaid, shall, if he require it, be uniformly applied to the support of the public teacher or teachers of his own religious sect or denomination, provided there be any on whose instruction he attends; otherwise it may be paid towards the support of the teacher or teachers of the parish or precinct in which the said moneys are raised.\*

And every denomination of Christians, demeaning themselves peaceably, and as good subjects of the commonwealth, shall be equally under the protection of the law; and no subordination of any sect or denomination to another shall ever be established by law.

4. The people of this commonwealth have the sole and exclusive right of governing themselves, as a free, sovereign, and independent State: and do, and forever hereafter shall, exercise and enjoy every power, jurisdiction, and right, which is not, or may not hereafter be by them expressly delegated to the United States of America, in Congress assembled.

5. All power residing originally in the people, and being derived from them, the several magistrates and officers of government vested with authority, whether legislative, executive, or judicial, are their substitutes and agents, and are at all times accountable to them.

6. No man, or corporation, or association of men, have any other title to obtain advantages, or particular and exclusive privileges, distinct from those of the community, than what arises from the

\* See Amendments, Art. XL

consideration of services rendered to the public. And this title being, in nature, neither hereditary nor transmissible to children or descendants, or relations of blood, the idea of a man born a magistrate, lawgiver, or judge, is absurd and unnatural.

7. Government is instituted for the common good: for the protection, safety, prosperity and happiness of the people; and not for the profit, honor, or private interest of any one man, family, or any one class of men. Therefore, the people alone have an incontestable, inalienable, and indefeasible right to institute government, and to reform, alter, or totally change the same, when their protection, safety, prosperity, and happiness require it.

8. In order to prevent those who are vested with authority from becoming oppressors, the people have a right, at such periods and in such manner as they shall establish by the frame of government, to cause their public officers to return to private life, and to fill up vacant places by certain and regular elections and appointments.

9. All elections ought to be free: and all the inhabitants of this commonwealth, having such qualifications as they shall establish by their frame of government, have an equal right to elect officers, and to be elected for public employments.

10. Each individual of the society has a right to be protected by it, in the enjoyment of his life, liberty, and property, according to the standing laws. He is obliged, consequently, to contribute his share to the expense of this protection; to give his personal service, or an equivalent, when necessary. But no part of the property of any individual can, with justice, be taken from him, or applied to the public use, without his own consent, or that of the representative body of the people. In fine, the people of this commonwealth are not controllable by any other laws than those to which their constitutional representative body have given their consent. And whenever the public exigencies require that the property of any individual shall be appropriated to public uses, he shall receive a reasonable compensation therefor.

11. Every subject of the Commonwealth ought to find a certain remedy, by having recourse to the laws, for all injuries or wrongs which he may receive, in his person, property, or character. He ought to obtain right and justice freely, and without being obliged to purchase it—completely, and without any denial—promptly, and without delay—conformably to the laws.

12. No person shall be held to answer for any crime or offence, until the same is fully and plainly, substantially and formally, described to him; or be compelled to accuse or furnish evidence against himself. And every person shall have a right to produce all proofs that may be favorable to him; to meet the witnesses against him, face to face, and be fully heard in his defense, by himself, or his counsel, at his election. And no person shall be arrested, imprisoned, or despoiled or deprived of his property, immunities, or privileges, put out of the protection of the law, exiled or deprived of his life,



liberty, or estate, but by the judgment of his peers, or the law of the land.

And the Legislature shall not make any law that shall subject any person to a capital or infamous punishment (excepting for the government of the army and navy) without trial by jury.

13. In criminal prosecutions the verification of facts, in the vicinity where they happen, is one of the greatest securities of the life, liberty, and property of the citizen.

14. Every person has a right to be secure from all unreasonable searches and seizures of his person, his house, his papers, and all his possessions. All warrants, therefore, are contrary to this right, if the cause or foundation of them be not previously supported by oath or affirmation; and if the order, in a warrant to a civil officer, to make search in all suspected places, or to arrest one or more suspected persons, or to seize their property, be not accompanied with a special designation of the persons or objects of search, arrest, or seizure. And no warrant ought to be issued but in such cases, and with the formalities prescribed by the laws.

15. In all controversies concerning property, and in all suits between two or more persons, (except in cases in which it has heretofore been otherwise used and practised,) the parties have a right to a trial by jury; and this method of procedure shall be held sacred—unless, in cases arising on the high seas, and such as relate to mariners' wages, the Legislature shall hereafter find it necessary to alter it.

16. The liberty of the press is essential to security of freedom in a State; it ought not, therefore, to be restrained in this Commonwealth.

17. The people have a right to keep and to bear arms for the common defense. And as, in time of peace, armies are dangerous to liberty, they ought not to be maintained, without the consent of the Legislature: and the military power shall always be held in exact subordination to the civil authority, and be governed by it.

18. A frequent recurrence to the fundamental principles of the Constitution, and a constant adherence to those of piety, justice, moderation, temperance, industry, and frugality, are absolutely necessary to preserve the advantages of liberty, and to maintain a free government. The people ought, consequently, to have a particular attention to all those principles, in the choice of their officers and representatives, and they have a right to require of their lawgivers and magistrates an exact and constant observance of them, in the formation and execution of all laws necessary for the good administration of the commonwealth.

19. The people have a right, in an orderly and peaceable manner, to assemble to consult upon the common good; give instruction to their representatives; and to request of the legislative body, by the way of addresses, petitions, or remonstrances, redress of the wrongs done them, and of the grievances they suffer.

20. The power of suspending the laws, or the execution of the laws, ought never to be exercised but by the Legislature ; or by authority derived from it, to be exercised in such particular cases only as the Legislature shall expressly provide for.

21. The freedom of deliberation, speech, and debate, in either house of the Legislature, is so essential to the rights of the people, that it cannot be the foundation of any accusation or prosecution, action or complaint, in any other court or place whatsoever.

22. The Legislature ought frequently to assemble, for the redress of grievances, for correcting, strengthening, and confirming the laws, and for making new laws, as the common good may require.

23. No subsidy, charge, tax, impost, or duties, ought to be established, fixed, laid, or levied, under any pretext whatever, without the consent of the people, or their representatives in the Legislature.

24. Laws made to punish for actions done before the existence of such laws, and which have not been declared crimes by preceding laws, are unjust, oppressive, and inconsistent with the fundamental principles of a free government.

25. No person ought, in any case, or in any time, to be declared guilty of treason or felony by the Legislature.

26. No magistrate or court of law, shall demand excessive bail or sureties, impose excessive fines, or inflict cruel or unusual punishments.

27. In time of peace, no soldier ought to be quartered in any house, without the consent of the owner ; and in time of war, such quarters ought not to be made, but by the civil magistrate, in manner ordained by the Legislature.

28. No person can, in any case, be subjected to law martial, or to any penalties or pains by virtue of that law, (except those employed in the army or navy, and except the militia in actual service,) but by the authority of the Legislature.

29. It is essential to the preservation of the rights of every individual, his life, liberty, property and character, that there be an impartial interpretation of the laws, and administration of justice. It is the right of every citizen to be tried by judges as free, impartial, and independent, as the lot of humanity will admit. It is; therefore, not only the best policy, but for the security of the rights of the people, and of every citizen, that the judges of the Supreme Judicial Court should hold their offices as long as they behave themselves well ; and that they should have honorable salaries, ascertained and established by standing laws.

30. In the government of this commonwealth, the legislative department shall never exercise the executive and judicial powers, or either of them : the executive shall never exercise the legislative and judicial powers, or either of them : the judicial shall never exercise the legislative and executive powers, or either of them : to the end that it may be a government of laws, and not of men.



## PART II.

*Frame of Government.*

The people inhabiting the territory formerly called the Province of Massachusetts Bay, do hereby solemnly and mutually agree with each other to form themselves into a free, sovereign, and independent body politic, or State, by the name of *The Commonwealth of Massachusetts*.

## CHAPTER I.

## SECTION I.

*The Legislative Power.—The General Court.*

ART. 1. The department of legislation shall be formed by two branches, a Senate and House of Representatives: each of which shall have a negative on the other.

The legislative body shall assemble every year, on the last Wednesday of May, and at such other times as they shall judge necessary; and shall dissolve and be dissolved on the day next preceding the last Wednesday in May; and shall be styled, *The General Court of Massachusetts*.\*

2. No bill or resolve of the Senate or House of Representatives shall become a law, and have force as such, until it shall have been laid before the Governor for his revisal: and if he, upon such revision, approve thereof, he shall signify his approbation by signing the same. But, if he have any objection to the passing of such bill or resolve, he shall return the same, together with his objections thereto, in writing, to the Senate or House of Representatives, in whichsoever the same shall have originated; who shall enter the objections sent down by the Governor, at large, on their records, and proceed to reconsider the said bill or resolve; but if, after such reconsideration, two-thirds of the said Senate or House of Representatives shall, notwithstanding the said objections, agree to pass the same, it shall, together with the objections, be sent to the other branch of the Legislature, where it shall also be reconsidered, and if approved by two-thirds of the members present, it shall have the force of a law; but in all such cases the votes of both houses shall be determined by yeas and nays: and the names of the persons voting for or against the said bill or resolve, shall be entered upon the public records of the commonwealth.

And, in order, to prevent unnecessary delays, if any bill or resolve shall not be returned by the Governor within five days after it shall have been presented, the same shall have the force of a law.†

3. The General Court shall forever have full power and authority to erect and constitute judicatories, and courts of record, or other courts, to be held in the name of the commonwealth, for the hear

\* See Amendments, Art. X.

† See Amendments, Art. I.

ing, trying, and determining of all manner of crimes, offences, pleas, processes, complaints, actions, matters, causes, and things whatsoever, arising or happening within the commonwealth, or between or concerning persons inhabiting, or residing, or brought within the same, whether the same be criminal or civil; or whether the said crimes be capital or not capital, or whether the said pleas be real, personal, or mixed; and for the awarding and making out of execution thereupon; to which courts and judicatories are hereby given and granted full power and authority, from time to time, to administer oaths or affirmations, for the better discovery of truth in any matter in controversy or depending before them.

4. And further, full power and authority are hereby given and granted to the said General Court, from time to time, to make, ordain, and establish all manner of wholesome and reasonable orders, laws, statutes, and ordinances, directions, and instructions, either with penalties or without (so as the same be not repugnant or contrary to this Constitution), as they shall judge to be for the good and welfare of this commonwealth, and for the government and ordering thereof, and of the citizens of the same, and for the necessary support and defense of the government thereof; and to name and settle annually, or provide by fixed laws for the naming and settling all civil officers, within the said commonwealth, the election and constitution of whom are not hereafter, in this form of government, otherwise provided for: and to set forth the several duties, powers, and limits of the several civil and military officers of this commonwealth, and the forms of such oaths or affirmations shall be respectively administered unto them for the execution of their several offices and places, so as the same be not repugnant or contrary to this Constitution; and to impose and levy proportionable and reasonable assessments, rates, and taxes upon all the inhabitants of, and persons resident, and estates lying within the said commonwealth; and also to impose and levy reasonable duties and excises upon any produce, goods, wares, merchandises, and commodities whatsoever, brought into, produced, manufactured, or being within the same; to be issued and disposed of by warrant under the hand of the Governor of this commonwealth for the time being, with the advice and consent of the Council, for the public service, in the necessary defense and support of the government of the said commonwealth, and the protection and preservation of the citizens thereof, according to such acts as are or shall be in force within the same.

And while the public charges of government, or any part thereof, shall be assessed on polls and estates in the manner that has hitherto been practised; in order that such assessments may be made with equality, there shall be a valuation of estates within the commonwealth taken anew once in every ten years, at the least, and as much oftener as the General Court shall order.



SECTION II.—*Senate.*

ART. 1. There shall be annually elected by the freeholders and other inhabitants of this commonwealth, qualified as in this Constitution is provided, forty persons to be counselors and senators for the year ensuing their election; to be chosen by the inhabitants of the districts into which the commonwealth may from time to time be divided by the General Court for that purpose. And the General Court, in assigning the numbers to be elected by the representative districts, shall govern themselves by the proportion of the public taxes paid by the said districts; and timely make known to the inhabitants of the commonwealth, the limits of each district, and the numbers of counselors and senators to be chosen therein: provided that the number of such districts shall never be less than thirteen; and that no district be so large as to entitle the same to choose more than six senators.\*

And the several counties in this commonwealth shall, until the General Court shall determine it necessary to alter the said districts, be districts for choice of counselors and senators, (except that the counties of Duke's county and Nantucket shall form one district for that purpose,) and shall elect the following number for counselors and senators, viz. :†

|                          |                           |
|--------------------------|---------------------------|
| Suffolk . . . . . six    | York . . . . . two        |
| Essex . . . . . six      | Duke's county and } . one |
| Middlesex . . . . . five | Nantucket }               |
| Hampshire . . . . . four | Worcester . . . . . five  |
| Plymouth . . . . . three | Cumberland . . . . . one  |
| Barnstable . . . . . one | Lincoln . . . . . one     |
| Bristol . . . . . three  | Berkshire . . . . . two   |

2. The Senate shall be the first branch of the Legislature: and the senators shall be chosen in the following manner, viz.: There shall be a meeting on the first Monday in April, annually forever, of the inhabitants of each town in the several counties of this commonwealth; to be called by the selectmen, and warned in due course of law, at least seven days before the first Monday in April, for the purpose of electing persons to be senators and counselors. And at such meetings every male inhabitant, of twenty-one years of age and upwards, having a freehold estate within the commonwealth of the annual income of three pounds, or any estate of the value of sixty pounds, shall have a right to give in his vote for the senators for the district of which he is an inhabitant; and to remove all doubts concerning the word "inhabitant" in this Constitution, every person shall be considered as an inhabitant (for the purpose of electing and being elected into any office or place within this State) in that town, district, or plantation, where he dwelleth or hath his home.‡

The selectmen of the several towns shall preside at such meetings

\* See Amendments, Arts. XIII. XVI. † See Amendments, Arts. XIII. and XXII.

‡ See Amendments, Arts. II. X. XIV. XV. III. and XX.

impartially, and shall receive the votes of all the inhabitants of such towns, present and qualified to vote for senators ; and shall sort and count them in open town meeting, and in presence of the town clerk, who shall make a fair record, in presence of the selectmen, and in open town meeting, of the name of every person voted for, and of the number of votes against his name ; and a fair copy of this record shall be attested by the selectmen and the town clerk, and shall be sealed up, directed to the Secretary of the Commonwealth for the time being, with a superscription expressing the purports of the contents thereof, and delivered by the town clerk of such town to the sheriff of the county in which such town lies, thirty days at least before the last Wednesday in May, annually ; or it shall be delivered into the Secretary's office seventeen days at least before the said last Wednesday in May ; and the sheriff of each county shall deliver all such certificates by him received into the Secretary's office, seventeen days before the said last Wednesday in May.

And the inhabitants of plantations unincorporated, (qualified as this Constitution provides,) who are or shall be empowered and required to assess taxes upon themselves, toward the support of government, shall have the same privilege of voting for counselors and senators in the plantations where they reside, as town inhabitants have in their respective towns ; and the plantation meetings for that purpose shall be held annually on the same first Monday in April, at such place in the plantations respectively as the assessors thereof shall direct ; which assessors shall have like authority for notifying the electors, collecting and returning the votes, as the selectmen and town clerks have in their several towns, by this Constitution ; and all other persons, living in places unincorporated (qualified as aforesaid), who shall be assessed to the support of government by the assessors of an adjacent town, shall have the privilege of giving in their votes for counselors and senators in the town where they shall be assessed, and be notified of the place of meeting by the selectmen of the town where they shall be assessed, for that purpose, accordingly.†

3. And that there may be a due Convention of senators on the last Wednesday in May annually, the Governor and five of the Council, for the time being, shall, as soon as may be, examine the returned copies of such records ; and, fourteen days before the said day, he shall issue his summons to such persons as shall appear to be chosen by the majority of votes, to attend on that day and take their seats accordingly ; provided, nevertheless, that, for the first year, the said returned copies shall be examined by the President and five of the Council of the former constitution of government ; and the said President shall, in like manner, issue his summons to the persons so elected, that they may take their seats as aforesaid.‡

4. The Senate shall be the final judge of the elections, returns, and qualifications of their own members, as pointed out in the Constitution ; and shall, on the said last Wednesday in May, annually



determine and declare who are elected by each district, to be senators, by a majority of votes: and in case there shall not appear to be the full number of senators returned, elected by a majority of votes for any district, the deficiency shall be supplied in the following manner, viz.: The members of the House of Representatives, and such senators as shall be declared elected, shall take the names of such persons as shall be found to have the highest number of votes in such district, and not elected, amounting to twice the number of senators wanting, if there be so many voted for; and out of these shall elect, by ballot, a number of senators sufficient to fill up the vacancies in such district; and in this manner all such vacancies shall be filled in every district of the commonwealth: and, in like manner, all vacancies in the Senate, arising by death, removal out of the State, or otherwise, shall be supplied as soon as may be after such vacancies shall happen:

5. Provided, nevertheless, that no person shall be capable of being elected a senator, who is not seized in his own right of a freehold within this commonwealth of the value of three hundred pounds at least, or possessed of personal estate to the value of six hundred pounds at least, or of both to the amount of the same sum; and who has not been an inhabitant of this commonwealth for the space of five years immediately preceding his election; and at the time of his election he shall be an inhabitant in the district for which he shall be chosen.\*

6. The Senate shall have power to adjourn themselves, provided such adjournments do not exceed two days at a time.

7. The Senate shall choose its own President, appoint its own officers, and determine its own rules of proceedings.

8. The Senate shall be a court, with full authority to hear and determine all impeachments made by the House of Representatives, against any officer or officers of the commonwealth, for misconduct and maladministration in their offices. But, previous to the trial of every impeachment, the members of the Senate shall respectively be sworn, truly and impartially to try and determine the charge in question, according to evidence. Their judgment, however, shall not extend further than to removal from office, and disqualification to hold or enjoy any place of honor, trust, or profit, under this commonwealth; but the party so convicted shall be, nevertheless, liable to impeachment, trial, judgment, and punishment, according to the laws of the land.

9. Not less than sixteen members of the Senate shall constitute a quorum for doing business.

### SECTION III.—*House of Representatives.*

ART. 1. There shall be, in the Legislature of this commonwealth, a representation of the people, annually elected, and founded upon the principles of equality

\* See Amendments, Art. XIII.

2. And in order to provide for a representation of the citizens of this commonwealth, founded on the principles of equality, every corporate town containing one hundred and fifty ratable polls may elect one representative; every corporate town containing three hundred and seventy-five ratable polls may elect two representatives: every corporate town containing six hundred ratable polls, may elect three representatives, and proceeding in that manner, making two hundred and twenty-five ratable polls the mean increasing number for every additional representative:\*

Provided, nevertheless, that each town now incorporated, not having one hundred and fifty ratable polls, may elect one representative. But no place shall hereafter be incorporated with the privilege of electing a representative, unless there are, within the same, one hundred and fifty ratable polls.

And the House of Representatives shall have power, from time to time, to impose fines upon such towns as shall neglect to choose and return members to the same, agreeably to this Constitution.

The expense of traveling to the General Assembly, and returning home once in every session, and no more, shall be paid by the government, out of the public treasury, to every member who shall attend as seasonably as he can, in the judgment of the House, and does not depart without leave.

3. Every member of the House of Representatives shall be chosen by written votes; and for one year at least next preceding his election shall have been an inhabitant of, and have been seized in his own right of a freehold of the value of one hundred pounds within the town he shall be chosen to represent, or any ratable estate, to the value of two hundred pounds; and he shall cease to represent the said town immediately on his ceasing to be qualified as aforesaid.†

4. Every male person (being twenty-one years of age, and resident of any particular town in this commonwealth, for the space of one year next preceding) having a freehold estate within the same town, of the annual income of three pounds, or any estate of the value of sixty pounds, shall have a right to vote in the choice of a representative, or representatives, for the said town.‡

5. The members of the House of Representatives shall be chosen annually, in the month of May, ten days, at least, before the last Wednesday of that month.§

6. The House of Representatives shall be the grand inquest of this commonwealth; and all impeachments, made by them, shall be heard and tried by the Senate.

7. All money bills shall originate in the House of Representatives: but the Senate may propose or concur with amendments as on other bills.

8. The House of Representatives shall have power to adjourn themselves; provided such adjournment shall not exceed two days at a time.

\* See Amendments, Arts. XII. XIII. and XXI. † See Amendments, Arts. XIII. XIV.

‡ See Amendments, Arts. III. and XX. § See Amendments, Arts. X. and XV.



9. Not less than sixty members of the House of Representatives shall constitute a quorum for doing business.\*

10. The House of Representatives shall be the judge of the returns, elections and qualifications of its own members, as pointed out in the Constitution; shall choose their own Speaker; appoint their own officers, and settle their rules and orders of proceeding in their own house. They shall have authority to punish, by imprisonment, every person (not a member) who shall be guilty of disrespect to the house, by any disorderly or contemptuous behaviour in its presence; or who, in the town where the General Court is sitting, and during the time of its sitting, shall threaten harm to the body or estate of any of its members, for anything said or done in the House; or who shall assault any of them therefor; or who shall assault or arrest any witness or other person ordered to attend the House, in his way in going or returning; or who shall rescue any person arrested by the order of the House.

And no member of the House of Representatives shall be arrested or held to bail on mesne process, during his going into, returning from, or his attending the General Assembly.

11. The Senate have the same powers in the like cases; and the Governor and Council shall have the same authority to punish in like cases: provided, that no imprisonment, on the warrant or order of the Governor, Council, Senate or House of Representatives, for either of the above described offences, be for a term exceeding thirty days.

And the Senate and House of Representatives may try and determine all cases where their rights and privileges are concerned, and which by the Constitution, they have authority to try and determine by committees of their own members, or in such other way as they may respectively think best.

## CHAPTER II.

### SECTION I.—*Executive Power. Governor.*

ART. 1. There shall be a Supreme Executive Magistrate, who shall be styled *the Governor of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts*: and whose title shall be, *His Excellency*.

2. The Governor shall be chosen annually: and no person shall be eligible to this office, unless at the time of his election he shall have been an inhabitant of this commonwealth for seven years next preceeding; and unless he shall, at the same time, be seized in his own right of a freehold within the commonwealth of the value of one thousand pounds; and unless he shall declare himself to be of the Christian religion.†

3.‡ Those persons who shall be qualified to vote for senators and representatives, within the several towns of this commonwealth, shall, at a meeting to be called for that purpose, on the first Monday in April, annually, give in their votes for a Governor to the se-

\* See Amendments, Art. XXI.

† See Amendments, Art. VII.

‡ See Amendments, Arts. II. X. XIV. and XV.

lectmen, who shall preside at such meetings; and the town clerk, in the presence and with the assistance of the selectmen, shall, in open town meeting, sort and count the votes, and form a list of the persons voted for, with the number of votes for each person, against his name: and shall make a fair record of the same in the town books, and a public declaration thereof in the said meeting; and shall, in the presence of the inhabitants, seal up copies of the said lists, attested by him and the selectmen, and transmit the same to the sheriff of the county, thirty days at least before the last Wednesday in May: and the sheriff shall transmit the same to the Secretary's office seventeen days at least before the said last Wednesday in May; or the selectmen may cause returns of the same to be made to the office of the Secretary of the commonwealth, seventeen days at least before the said day; and the Secretary shall lay the same before the Senate and House of Representatives on the last Wednesday in May, to be by them examined: and in case of an election by a majority of all the votes returned, the choice shall be by them declared and published. But if no person shall have a majority of votes, the House of Representatives shall, by ballot, elect two out of four persons, who had the highest number of votes, if so many shall have been voted for: but, if otherwise, out of the number voted for; and make return to the Senate of the persons so elected; on which the Senate shall, by ballot, elect one who shall be declared Governor.

4. The Governor shall have authority from time to time, at his discretion, to assemble and call together the counselors of this commonwealth for the time being; and the Governor, with the said counselors, or five of them at least, shall, and may from time to time, hold and keep a council, for the ordering and directing the affairs of the commonwealth, agreeably to the Constitution or laws of the land.

5. The Governor, with the advice of Council, shall have full power and authority, during the session of the General Court, to adjourn or prorogue the same, to any time the two houses shall desire; and to dissolve the same on the day next preceding the last Wednesday in May, and in the recess of the said Court to prorogue the same, from time to time, not exceeding ninety days in any one recess; and to call it together sooner than the time to which it may be adjourned or prorogued, if the welfare of the commonwealth shall require the same. And in case of any infectious distemper prevailing in the place where the said Court is next, at any time, to convene, or any cause happening, whereby danger may arise to the health or lives of the members from their attendance, he may direct the session to be held at some other of the most convenient places within the State.\*

And the Governor shall dissolve the said General Court on the day next preceding the last Wednesday in May.\*

6. In cases of disagreement between the two houses with regard



to the necessity, expediency, or time of adjournment, or prorogation, the Governor, with advice of the Council, shall have a right to adjourn or prorogue the General Court, not exceeding ninety days, as he shall determine and the public good shall require.

7. The Governor of this commonwealth, for the time being, shall be commander-in-chief of the army and navy, and of all the military forces of the State, by sea and land; and shall have full power, by himself, or by any commander, or other officer or officers, from time to time, to train, instruct, exercise, and govern the militia and navy; and, for the special defense and safety of the commonwealth, to assemble in martial array, and put in warlike posture, the inhabitants thereof; and to lead and conduct them, and with them to encounter, repel, resist, expel, and pursue, by force of arms, as well by sea as by land, within or without the limits of this commonwealth; and also to kill, slay, and destroy, if necessary, and conquer, by all fitting ways, enterprises, and means whatsoever, all and every such person or persons, as shall, at any time hereafter, in a hostile manner, attempt or enterprise the destruction, invasion, detriment, or annoyance of this commonwealth; and to use and exercise over the army and navy, and over the militia in actual service, the law martial, in time of war or invasion, and also in time of rebellion (declared by the Legislature to exist), as occasion shall necessarily require; and to take and surprise, by all ways and means whatsoever, all and every such person or persons (with their ships, arms, ammunition, and goods) as shall, in a hostile manner, invade, or attempt the invading, conquering, or annoying this commonwealth; and that the Governor be intrusted with all these and other powers incident to the offices of captain-general, and commander-in-chief, and admiral, to be exercised agreeably to the rules and regulations of the Constitution, and the laws of the land, and not otherwise.

Provided, that the said Governor shall not, at any time hereafter, by virtue of any power by this Constitution granted, or hereafter to be granted to him by the Legislature, transport any of the inhabitants of this commonwealth, or oblige them to march out of the limits of the same, without their free and voluntary consent, or the consent of the General Court; except so far as may be necessary to march or transport them by land or water, for the defense of such part of the State, to which they cannot conveniently have access.

8. The power of pardoning offences, except such as persons may be convicted of before the Senate, by an impeachment of the House, shall be in the Governor, by and with the advice of Council; but no charter of pardon, granted by the Governor, with advice of the Council, before conviction, shall avail the party pleading the same, notwithstanding any general or particular expressions contained therein, descriptive of the offence or offences intended to be pardoned.

9.\*All judicial officers, the Attorney-General, the Solicitor-General, all sheriffs, coroners, and registers of probate, shall be nominat-

\* See Amendments, Arts. XIV. XVII. and XIX.

ed and appointed by the Governor, by and with the advice and consent of the Council; and every such nomination shall be made by the Governor, and made at least seven days prior to such appointment.

10. The captains and subalterns of the militia shall be elected by the written votes of the train band and alarm list of their respective companies, of twenty-one years of age and upwards. The field officers of regiments shall be elected by the written votes of the captains and subalterns of their respective regiments. The brigadiers shall be elected, in like manner, by the field officers of their respective brigades. And such officers, so elected, shall be commissioned by the Governor, who shall determine their rank.\*

The Legislature shall, by standing laws, direct the time and manner of convening the electors, and of collecting votes, and of certifying to the Governor the officers elected.

The major-generals shall be appointed by the Senate and House of Representatives, each having a negative upon the other; and be commissioned by the Governor.

And if the electors of brigadiers, field officers, captains, or subalterns, shall neglect or refuse to make such elections, after being duly notified according to the laws of the time being, then the Governor, with advice of the Council, shall appoint suitable persons to fill such offices.

And no officer, duly commissioned to command in the militia, shall be removed from his office, but by the address of both houses to the Governor, or by fair trial in court-martial, pursuant to the laws of the commonwealth for the time being.†

The commanding officers of regiments shall appoint their adjutants and quartermasters: the brigadiers their brigade-majors; and major-generals their aids: and the Governor shall appoint the adjutant-general.

The Governor, with advice of Council, shall appoint all officers of the continental army, whom (by the confederation of the United States (it is provided that this commonwealth shall appoint, as also all officers of forts and garrisons.

The divisions of the militia into brigades, regiments, and companies, made in pursuance of the militia laws now in force, shall be considered as the proper divisions of the militia of this commonwealth, until the same shall be altered in pursuance of some future law.

11. No moneys shall be issued out of the treasury of this commonwealth, and be disposed of (except such sums as may be appropriated for the redemption of bills of credit or treasurer's notes, or for the payment of interest arising thereon) but by warrant, under the hand of the Governor for the time being, with the advice and consent of the Council, for the necessary defense and Support of the commonwealth, and for the protection and preservation of the inhabitants thereof, agreeably to the act and resolves of the General Court.

\* See Amendments, Art. V.

† See Amendments, Art. IV.



12. All public boards, the commissary-general, all superintending officers of public magazines and stores, belonging to this commonwealth, and all commanding officers of forts and garrisons within the same, shall, once in every three months, officially, and without requisition, and at other times when required by the Governor, deliver to him an account of all goods, stores, provisions, ammunition, cannon, with their appendages, and small arms, with their accoutrements, and of all other public property whatever, under their care respectively; distinguishing the quantity, number, quality, and kind of each, as particularly as may be; together with the condition of such forts and garrisons. And the said commanding officer shall exhibit to the Governor, when required by him, true and exact plans of such forts, and of the land and sea, harbor or harbors, adjacent.

And the said boards, and all public officers shall communicate to the Governor, as soon as may be after receiving the same, all dispatches and intelligence of a public nature, which shall be directed to them respectively.

13. As the public good requires that the Governor should not be under the undue influence of any of the members of the General Court, by a dependence on them for his support: that he should in all cases act with freedom for the benefit of the public; that he should not have his attention necessarily diverted from that object to his private concerns; and that he should maintain the dignity of the commonwealth, in the character of its chief magistrate, it is necessary that he should have an honorable, stated salary, of a fixed and permanent value, amply sufficient for those purposes, and established by standing laws; and it shall be among the first acts of the General Court, after the commencement of this Constitution, to establish such salary by law accordingly.

Permanent and honorable salaries shall also be established by law for the justices of the Supreme Judicial Court.

And if it shall be found that any of the salaries aforesaid, so established, are insufficient, they shall, from time to time, be enlarged, as the General Court shall judge proper.

## SECTION II.—*Lieutenant-Governor.*

ART. 1.\*There shall be annually elected a Lieutenant-Governor of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, whose title shall be, *His Honor*; and who shall be qualified, in point of religion, property, and residence in the commonwealth, in the same manner with the Governor; and the day and manner of his election, and the qualifications of the electors, shall be the same as are required in the election of a Governor. The return of the votes for this officer, and the declaration of his election, shall be in the same manner: and if no one person shall be found to have a majority of all the votes returned, the vacancy shall be filled by the Senate and House of Representatives, in the same manner as the Governor is to be elected, in case

\* See Amendments, Arts. III. VI. X. and XV.

no one person shall have a majority of the votes of the people, to be Governor.

2. The Governor, and in his absence the Lieutenant-Governor, shall be the President of the Council, but shall have no vote in Council; and the Lieutenant-Governor shall always be a member of the Council, except when the chair of the Governor shall be vacant.

3. Whenever the chair of the Governor shall be vacant by reason of his death, or absence from the commonwealth, or otherwise, the Lieutenant-Governor for the time being shall, during such vacancy, perform all the duties incumbent upon the Governor, and shall have and exercise all the power and authorities which, by this Constitution, the Governor is vested with, when personally present.

### SECTION III.

#### *Council, and the manner of settling elections by the Legislature.*

ART. 1. There shall be a Council for advising the Governor in the executive part of government, to consist of nine persons, besides the Lieutenant-Governor, whom the Governor, for the time being, shall have full power and authority from time to time, at his discretion, to assemble and call together: and the Governor, with the said counselors, or five of them at least, shall and may, from time to time hold and keep a Council, for the ordering and directing the affairs of the commonwealth, according to the laws of the land.\*

2. Nine counselors shall be annually chosen from among the persons returned from the counselors and senators, on the last Wednesday in May, by the joint ballot of the senators and representatives, assembled in one room: and in case there shall not be found, upon the first choice, the whole number of nine persons, who will accept a seat in the Council, the deficiency shall be made up by the electors aforesaid, from among the people at large; and the number of senators left shall constitute the Senate for the year. The seats for the persons thus elected from the Senate, and accepting the trust, shall be vacated in the Senate.†

3. The counselors, in the civil arrangements of the commonwealth, shall have rank next after the Lieutenant-Governor.

4. Not more than two counselors shall be chosen out of any one district of this commonwealth.

5. The resolutions and advice of the Council shall be recorded in a register, and signed by the members present; and this record may be called for at any time by either house of the Legislature; and any member of the Council may insert his opinion, contrary to the resolution of the majority.

6. Whenever the office of Governor and Lieutenant-Governor shall be vacant, by reason of death, absence, or otherwise, then the Council, or the major part of them, shall, during such vacancy, have full power and authority to do and to execute all and every such acts, matters, and things, as the Governor, or Lieutenant-Governor

\* See Amendments, Art. XVI.

† See Amendments, Arts. X. XIII. and XVI.



might or could, by virtue of this Constitution, do or execute, if they or either of them were personally present.

7. And whereas the elections appointed to be made by this Constitution, on the last Wednesday in May annually, by the two houses of the Legislature, may not be completed on that day, the said elections may be adjourned from day to day until the same shall be completed. And the order of election shall be as follows: the vacancies in the Senate, if any, shall first be filled up; the Governor and Lieutenant-Governor shall then be elected, provided there shall be no choice of them by the people; and afterwards the two houses shall proceed to the election of the Council.

#### SECTION IV.—*Secretary, Treasurer, Commissary, &c.*

ART. 1. The Secretary, Treasurer, and Receiver-General, and the Commissary-General, notaries public, and naval officers, shall be chosen annually, by joint ballot of the senators and representatives, in one room; and that the citizens of this commonwealth may be assured, from time to time, that the moneys remaining in the public treasury, upon the settlement and liquidation of the public accounts, are their property, no man shall be eligible as Treasurer and Receiver-General more than five years successively.\*

2. The records of the commonwealth shall be kept in the office of the Secretary, who may appoint his deputies, for whose conduct he shall be accountable; and he shall attend the Governor and Council, the Senate and House of Representatives, in person, or by his deputies, as they shall respectively require.

### CHAPTER III.

#### *Judiciary Power.*

ART. 1. The tenure that all commissioned officers shall by law have in their offices, shall be expressed in their respective commissions; all judicial officers, duly appointed, commissioned, and sworn, shall hold their offices during good behaviour; excepting such concerning whom there is different provision made in this Constitution: Provided, nevertheless, the Governor, with consent of the Council, may remove them upon the address of both houses of the Legislature.

2. Each branch of the Legislature, as well as the Governor and Council, shall have authority to require the opinions of the justices of the Supreme Judicial Court, upon important questions of law, and upon solemn occasions.

3. In order that the people may not suffer from the long continuance in place of any justice of the peace, who shall fail of discharging the important duties of his office with ability or fidelity, all commissions of justices of the peace shall expire and become void in the term of seven years from their respective dates; and upon the expiration of any commission, the same may, if necessary, be

\* See Amendments, Arts. IV. and XVII.

renewed, or another person appointed, as shall most conduce to the well-being of the commonwealth.

4. The judges of probates of wills, and for granting letters of administration, shall hold their courts at such place or places, on fixed days, as the convenience of the people may require: and the Legislature shall, from time to time hereafter, appoint such times and places: until which appointments, the said courts shall be holden at the times and places which the respective judges shall direct.

5. All the causes of marriage, divorce, alimony, and all appeals from the judges of probate, shall be heard and determined by the Governor and Council, until the Legislature shall, by law, make other provisions.

## CHAPTER IV.

### *Delegates to Congress.*

The delegates of this commonwealth to the Congress of the United States shall, some time in the month of June annually, be elected by joint ballot of the Senate and House of Representatives, assembled together in one room; to serve in Congress for one year, to commence on the first Monday in November then next ensuing. They shall have commission under the hand of the Governor, and the great seal of the commonwealth; but may be recalled at any time within the year, and others chosen and commissioned in the same manner, in their stead.

## CHAPTER V.

### *To the University at Cambridge, and Encouragement of Literature, &c.*

#### SECTION I.—*The University.*

ART. 1. Whereas our wise and pious ancestors, so 'early as the year one thousand six hundred and thirty-six, laid the foundation of Harvard College, in which university many persons of great eminence have, by the blessing of God, been initiated into those arts and sciences which qualified them for public employments both in church and state: and whereas the encouragement of arts and sciences, and all good literature, tends to the honor of God, the advantage of the Christian religion, and the great benefit of this and the other United States of America, it is declared that the President and fellows of Harvard College in their corporate capacity, and their successors in that capacity, their officers and servants, shall have, hold, use, exercise, and enjoy, all the powers, authorities, rights, liberties, privileges, immunities, and franchises, which they now have, or are entitled to have, hold, use, exercise, and enjoy: and the same are hereby ratified and confirmed unto them, the said President and fellows of Harvard College, and to their successors, and to their officers and servants, respectively, forever.

2. And whereas there have been, at sundry times, by divers per-



sons, gifts, grants, devises of houses, lands, tenements, goods, chattels, legacies, and conveyances, heretofore made, either to Harvard College, in Cambridge, in New England, or to the President and fellows of Harvard College, or to the said College, by some other description, under several charges successively—it is declared, that all the said gifts, grants, devises, legacies, and conveyances, are hereby forever confirmed unto the President and fellows of Harvard College, and to their successors in the capacity aforesaid, according to the true intent and meaning of the donor or donors, grantor and grantors, devisor and devisors.

3. And whereas, by an act of the General Court of the colony of Massachusetts Bay, passed in the year one thousand six hundred and forty-two, the Governor and Deputy-Governor, for the time being, and all the magistrates of that jurisdiction, were, with the President and a number of the clergy in the said act described, constituted the overseers of Harvard College: and it being necessary in this new Constitution of government, to ascertain who shall be deemed successors to the said Governor, Deputy-Governor, and magistrates, it is declared that the Governor, Lieutenant-Governor, Council, and Senate of this commonwealth, are and shall be deemed their successors: who, with the President of Harvard College, for the time being, together with the ministers of the Congregational churches in the towns of Cambridge, Watertown, Charlestown. Boston, Roxbury, and Dorchester, mentioned in the said act, shall be, and hereby are, vested with all the powers and authority belonging, or in any way appertaining to the overseers of Harvard College: provided, that nothing herein shall be construed to prevent the Legislature of this commonwealth from making such alterations in the government of the said university as shall be conducive to its advantage, and the interest of the republic of letters, in as full a manner as might have been done by the Legislature of the late province of Massachusetts Bay.

## SECTION II.—*The Encouragement of Literature.*

\*Wisdom and knowledge, as well as virtue, diffused generally among the body of the people, being necessary for the preservation of their rights and liberties, and as these depend on spreading the opportunities and advantages of education in the various parts of the country, and among the different orders of the people, it shall be the duty of the legislatures and magistrates, in all future periods of this commonwealth, to cherish the interest of literature and the sciences. and all seminaries of them: especially the university at Cambridge, public schools, and grammar schools in the towns; to encourage private societies and public institutions, by rewards, and immunities for the promotion of agriculture, arts, sciences, commerce, trades, manufactures, and a natural history of the country; to countenance and inculcate the principles of humanity and general benevolence, public and private charity, industry and frugality, honesty and punctuality

\* See Amendments, Art. XVIII.

in all their dealings; sincerity, good humor, and all social affections and generous sentiments among the people.

## CHAPTER VI.

*Oaths and subscriptions; incompatibility of, and exclusion from, offices; pecuniary qualifications; commissions; writs; confirmation of laws; habeas corpus; the enacting style; continuance of officers; provision for a future revisal of the Constitution, &c.*

ART. 1. Any person chosen Governor, or Lieutenant-Governor, counselor, senator, or representative, and accepting the trust, shall, before he proceed to execute the duties of his place or office, take, make, and subscribe, the following declaration, viz.:

“I, A. B., do declare that I believe the Christian religion, and have a firm persuasion of its truth; and that I am seized and possessed, in my own right, of the property required by the Constitution, as one qualification for the office or place to which I am elected.”\*

And the Governor, Lieutenant-Governor, and counselors, shall make and subscribe the said declaration in the presence of the two houses of assembly; and the senators and representatives first elected under this Constitution, before the President and five of the Council of the former Constitution; and, forever afterwards, before the Governor and Council for the time being.

And every person chosen to either of the offices aforesaid, as also any person appointed or commissioned to any judicial, executive, military, or other office, under the government, shall, before he enter on the discharge of the business of his place or office, take and subscribe the following declaration and oaths, or affirmations, viz.:

†“I, A. B., do truly and sincerely acknowledge, profess, testify, and declare, that the commonwealth of Massachusetts is, and of right ought to be, a free, sovereign, and independent State, and I do swear that I will bear true faith and allegiance to the said commonwealth, and that I will defend the same against traitorous conspiracies, and all hostile attempts whatsoever: and that I do renounce and abjure all allegiance, subjection, and obedience to the *King, Queen, or government* of Great Britain, *as the case may be*, and every other foreign power whatsoever: and that no foreign prince, person, prelate, state, or potentate, hath, or ought to have, any jurisdiction, superiority, pre-eminence, authority, dispensing or other power, in any matter, civil, ecclesiastical, or spiritual, within this commonwealth, except the authority and power which is or may be vested by their constituents in the Congress of the United States: And I do further testify and declare, that no man or body of men hath or can have any right to absolve or discharge me from the obligation of this oath, declaration, or affirmation; and that I do make this acknowledgment, profession, testimony, declaration.

\* See Amendments, Art. VII.

† See Amendments, Art. VI.



denial, renunciation, and abjuration heartily and truly, according to the common meaning and acceptation of the foregoing words, without any equivocation, mental evasion, or secret reservation whatsoever. *So help me God.*

I, A. B., do solemnly swear and affirm, that I will faithfully and impartially discharge and perform all the duties incumbent on me as —————, according to the best of my abilities and understanding, agreeably to the rules and regulations of the Constitution, and the laws of this commonwealth. *So help me God.*"

Provided always, that when any person chosen or appointed as aforesaid shall be of the denomination of the people called Quakers, and shall decline taking the said oaths, he shall make his affirmation, in the foregoing form, and subscribe the same, omitting the words, "*I do swear,*" "*and abjure,*" "*oath,*" "*and abjuration,*" in the first oath; and in the second oath, the words "*swear and,*" and in each of them the words "*so help me God;*" subjoining instead thereof, "*This I do under the pains and penalties of perjury.*"

And the said oaths or affirmations shall be taken and subscribed by the Governor, Lieutenant-Governor, and counselors, before the President of the Senate, in the presence of the two houses of assembly: and by the senators and representatives first elected under this Constitution, before the President and five of the Council of the former Constitution; and, forever afterwards, before the Governor and Council for the time being; and by the residue of the officers aforesaid, before such persons as, from time to time, shall be prescribed by the Legislature.

2. No Governor, Lieutenant-Governor, or judge of the Supreme Judicial Court, shall hold any office or place under the authority of this commonwealth, except such as by this Constitution they are admitted to hold, saving that the judges of the said Court may hold the offices of justices of the peace throughout the State; nor shall they hold any other place or office, or receive any pension or salary, from any other State, or government, or power whatever.

No person shall be capable of holding or exercising, at the same time, more than one of the following offices within this State, viz. judge of probate, sheriff, register of probate, or register of deeds: and never more than any two offices, which are to be held by appointment of the Governor, or the Governor and Council, or the Senate, or the House of Representatives, or by election of the people of the State at large, or of the people of any county (military officer and the office of justice of the peace excepted,) shall be held by one person.

No person holding the office of judge of the Supreme Judicial Court, Secretary, Attorney-General, Solicitor-General, Treasurer, or Receiver-General, judge of probate, Commissary-General, President, professor, or instructor of Harvard College, Sheriff, Clerk of the House of Representatives, register of probate, register of deeds,

clerk of the Supreme Judicial Court, clerk of the inferior court of common pleas, or officer of the customs, (including in this description naval officers,) shall at the same time have a seat in the Senate or House of Representatives; but, their being chosen or appointed to, and accepting the same, shall operate as a resignation of their seat in the Senate or House of Representatives; and the place so vacated shall be filled up.

And the same rule shall take place in case any judge of the said Supreme Judicial Court, or judge of probate, shall accept a seat in Council, or any counselor shall accept of either of those offices or places.

And no person shall ever be admitted to hold a seat in the Legislature, or any office of trust or importance under the government of this commonwealth, who shall in the due course of law have been convicted of bribery or corruption in obtaining an election or appointment.

3. In all cases where sums of money are mentioned in this Constitution, the value thereof shall be computed in silver, at six shillings and eight pence per ounce: and it shall be in the power of the Legislature from time to time, to increase such qualifications, as to property of the persons to be elected into offices, as the circumstances of the commonwealth shall require.

4. All commissions shall be in the name of the commonwealth of Massachusetts; signed by the Governor, and attested by the Secretary or his deputy, and have the great seal of the commonwealth affixed thereto.

5. All writs issuing out of the clerk's office, in any of the Courts of law, shall be in the name of the commonwealth of Massachusetts; they shall be under the seal of the Court from whence they issue; they shall bear test of the first justice of the Court to which they shall be returnable, (who is not a party,) and be signed by the clerk of such Court.

6. All the laws which have heretofore been adopted, used, and approved of in the province, colony, or State of Massachusetts Bay, and usually practised on in the Courts of law, shall still remain and be in full force, until altered or repealed by the Legislature: such parts only excepted as are repugnant to the rights and liberties contained in this Constitution.

7. The privilege and benefit of the writ of habeas corpus shall be enjoyed in this commonwealth in the most free, easy, cheap, expeditious, and ample manner: and shall not be suspended by the Legislature, except upon the most urgent and pressing occasions, and for a limited time, not exceeding twelve months.

8. The enacting style, in making and passing all acts, statutes, and laws, shall be, "*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives, in General Court assembled, and by the authority of the same.*"

9. To the end there may be no failure of justice, or danger arise



to the commonwealth, from a change of the form of government, all officers, civil and military, holding commissions under the government and people of Massachusetts Bay in New England, and all other officers of said government and people, at the time this Constitution shall take effect, shall have, hold, use, exercise, and enjoy, all the powers and authority to them granted or committed, until other persons shall be appointed in their stead; and all courts of law shall proceed in the execution of the business of their respective departments: and all the executive and legislative officers, bodies, and powers, shall continue in full force in the enjoyment and exercise of all their trusts, employments, and authority, until the General Court, and the Supreme and executive officers, under this Constitution, are designated and invested with their respective trusts, powers, and authority.

10. In order the more effectually to adhere to the principles of the Constitution, and correct those violations which by any means may be made therein, as well as to form such alterations as from experience shall be found necessary, the General Court which shall be in the year of our Lord one thousand seven hundred and ninety-five, shall issue precepts to the selectmen of the several towns, and to the assessors of the unincorporated plantations, directing them to convene the qualified voters of their respective towns and plantations, for the purpose of collecting their sentiments on the necessity or expediency of revising the Constitution, in order to amendments.

And if it shall appear, by the returns made, that two-thirds of the qualified voters throughout the State, who shall assemble and vote in consequence of the said precepts, are in favor of such revision or amendment, the General Court shall issue precepts, or direct them to be issued from the Secretary's office, to the several towns, to elect delegates to meet in convention, for the purpose aforesaid.

The said delegates to be chosen in the same manner and proportion, as their representatives in the second branch of the Legislature are by this Constitution to be chosen.

11. This form of government shall be enrolled on parchment, and deposited in the Secretary's office, and be a part of the laws of the land: and printed copies thereof shall be prefixed to the book containing the laws of this commonwealth, in all future editions of the said laws.

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## AMENDMENTS TO THE CONSTITUTION.

ART. 1. If any bill or resolve shall be objected to, and not approved of by the Governor; and if the General Court shall adjourn within five days after the same shall have been laid before the Governor for his approbation, and thereby prevent his returning it, with his objections, as provided by the Constitution; such bill or resolve shall not become a law, nor have force as such.

2. The General Court shall have full power and authority to erect or constitute municipal or city governments in any corporate town or towns, in this commonwealth, and to grant to the inhabitants thereof such powers, privileges, and immunities, not repugnant to the Constitution, as the General Court shall deem necessary or expedient for the regulation and government thereof, and to prescribe the manner of calling and holding public meetings of the inhabitants in wards, or otherwise, for the election of officers, under the Constitution, and the manner of returning the votes given at such meetings: provided, that no such government shall be erected or constituted in any town not containing twelve thousand inhabitants, nor unless it be with the consent, and on the application of a majority of the inhabitants of such town, present, and voting thereon, pursuant to a vote at a meeting duly warned and holden for that purpose: and provided, also, that all by-laws, made by such municipal or city government, shall be subject, at all times, to be annulled by the General Court.

3. Every male citizen of twenty-one years of age, and upwards, (excepting paupers and persons under guardianship,) who shall have resided within the commonwealth one year, and within the town or district, in which he may claim a right to vote, six calendar months next preceding any election of Governor, Lieutenant-Governor, senators, representatives, and who shall have paid, by himself or his parent, master or guardian, any State or county tax, which shall, within two years next preceding such election, have been assessed upon him, in any town or district of this commonwealth: and also every citizen, who shall be by law exempt from taxation, and who shall be in all other respects qualified as above mentioned, shall have a right to vote in such election of Governor, and Lieutenant-Governor, senators, and representatives; and no other person shall be entitled to a vote in such elections.\*

4. Notaries public shall be appointed by the Governor, in the same manner as judicial officers are appointed, and shall hold their offices during seven years, unless sooner removed by the Governor, with the consent of the Council, and upon the address of both houses of the Legislature.

In case the office of Secretary or Treasurer of the commonwealth shall become vacant from any cause, during the recess of the General Court, the Governor, with the consent of the Council, shall nominate and appoint, under such regulations as may be prescribed by law, a competent and suitable person to such vacant offices, who shall hold the same until a successor shall be appointed by the General Court.†

Whenever the exigencies of the commonwealth shall require the appointment of a Commissary-General, he shall be nominated, appointed, and commissioned, in such manner as the Legislature may by law prescribe.

All officers commissioned to command in the militia, may be re-

\* See Amendments, Art. XX.

† See Amendments, Art. XVII.



moved from office in such manner as the Legislature may by law prescribe.

5. In the election of captains and subalterns of the militia, all the members of their respective companies, as well those under as those above the age of twenty-one years, shall have a right to vote.

6. Instead of the oath of allegiance, prescribed by the Constitution, the following oath shall be taken and subscribed by every person chosen or appointed to any office, civil or military, under the government of this commonwealth, before he shall enter upon the duties of his office, to wit:

"I, A. B., do solemnly swear, that I will bear true faith and allegiance to the commonwealth of Massachusetts, and will support the Constitution thereof. So help me God."

Provided, that when any person shall be of the denomination called Quakers, and shall decline taking said oath, he shall make his affirmation in the foregoing form, omitting the word "swear," and inserting, instead thereof, the word "affirm," and omitting the words "so help me God," and subjoining, instead thereof, the words "this I do under the pains and penalties of perjury."

7. No oath, declaration, or subscription, excepting the oath prescribed in the preceding article and the oath of office, shall be required of the Governor, Lieutenant-Governor, counselors, senators, or representatives, to qualify them to perform the duties of their respective offices.

8. No judge of any court of this commonwealth, (except the Court of Sessions,) and no person holding any office under the authority of the United States, (postmasters excepted,) shall, at the same time, hold the office of Governor, Lieutenant-Governor, or counselor, or have a seat in the Senate or House of Representatives of this commonwealth; and no judge of any court of this commonwealth, (except the Court of Sessions,) nor the Attorney-General, Solicitor-General, county attorney, clerk of any court, sheriff, treasurer, and receiver-general, register of probate, nor register of deeds, shall continue to hold his said office after being elected a member of the Congress of the United States, and accepting that trust; but the acceptance of such trust, by any of the officers aforesaid, shall be deemed and taken to be a resignation of his said office; and judges of the courts of common pleas shall hold no other office under the government of this commonwealth, the office of the justice of the peace and militia officers excepted.

9. If, at any time hereafter, any specific and particular amendment or amendments to the Constitution be proposed in the General Court, and agreed to by a majority of the senators, and two-thirds of the members of the House of Representatives present and voting thereon, such proposed amendment or amendments shall be entered on the journals of the two houses, with the yeas and nays taken thereon, and referred to the General Court then next to be chosen, and shall be published; and if, in the General Court then

next chosen, as aforesaid, such proposed amendment or amendments shall be agreed to by a majority of the senators and two-thirds of the members of the House of Representatives present and voting thereon; then it shall be the duty of the General Court to submit such proposed amendment or amendments to the people; and if they shall be approved and ratified by a majority of the qualified voters voting thereon, at meetings legally warned and holden for that purpose, they shall become part of the Constitution of this Commonwealth.

10. The political year shall begin on the first Wednesday of January, instead of the last Wednesday of May; and the General Court shall assemble every year on the said first Wednesday of January, and shall proceed, at that session, to make all the elections, and do all the other acts, which are by the constitution required to be made and done at the session which has heretofore commenced on the last Wednesday of May. And the General Court shall be dissolved on the day next preceding the first Wednesday of January, without any proclamation or other act of the Governor. But nothing herein contained shall prevent the General Court from assembling at such other times as they shall judge necessary, or when called together by the Governor. The Governor, Lieutenant-Governor, and councillors, shall also hold their respective offices for one year next following the first Wednesday of January, and until others are chosen and qualified in their stead.

The meeting for the choice of Governor, Lieutenant-Governor, senators, and representatives, shall be held on the second Monday of November in every year; but meetings may be adjourned, if necessary, for the choice of representatives, to the next day, and again to the next succeeding day, but no further. But in case a second meeting shall be necessary for the choice of representatives, such meetings shall be held on the fourth Monday of the same month of November.\*

All the other provisions of the Constitution, respecting the elections and proceedings of the members of the General Court, or of any other officers or persons whatever, that have reference to the last Wednesday of May as the commencement of the political year, shall be so far altered, as to have like reference to the first Wednesday of January.

This article shall go into operation on the first day of October, next following the day when the same shall be duly ratified and adopted as an amendment of the Constitution; and the Governor, Lieutenant-Governor, councillors, senators, representatives, and all other state officers, who are annually chosen, and who shall be chosen for the current year, when the same shall go into operation, shall hold their respective offices until the first Wednesday of January then next following, and until others are chosen and qualified in their stead, and no longer; and the first election of the Governor, Lieutenant-Governor, senators and representatives, to be had in vir-

\* See Amendments, Art. XV.



tue of this article, shall be had conformably thereunto, in the month of November following the day on which the same shall be in force and go into operation, pursuant to the foregoing provision.

All the provisions of the existing Constitution, inconsistent with the provisions herein contained, are hereby wholly annulled.

11. Instead of the third article of the bill of rights, the following modification and amendment thereof is substituted :—

“As the public worship of God, and instructions in piety, religion, and morality, promote the happiness and prosperity of a people, and the security of a republican government; therefore, the several religious societies of this Commonwealth, whether corporate or unincorporate, at any meeting legally warned and holden for that purpose, shall ever have the right to elect their pastors or religious teachers, to contract with them for their support, to raise money for erecting and repairing houses for public worship, for the maintenance of religious instruction, and for the payment of necessary expenses: and all persons belonging to any religious society shall be taken and held to be members, until they shall file with the clerk of such society a written notice declaring the dissolution of their membership, and thenceforth shall not be liable for any grant or contract which may be thereafter made or entered into by such society: and all religious sects and denominations, demeaning themselves peaceably, and as good citizens of the Commonwealth, shall be equally under the protection of the law; and no subordination of any one sect or denomination to another shall ever be established by law.”

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*Article of Amendment adopted March 24, 1837, as the 12th Article of the Constitution.*

12. In order to provide for a representation of the citizens of this commonwealth, founded upon the principles of equality, a census of the ratable polls in each city, town, and district of the commonwealth, on the first day of May, shall be taken and returned into the Secretary's office, in such manner as the Legislature shall provide, within the month of May, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and thirty-seven, and in every tenth year thereafter in the month of May, in manner aforesaid; and each town or city having three hundred ratable polls at the last preceding decennial census of polls, may elect one representative, and for every four hundred and fifty ratable polls in addition to the first three hundred, one representative more.\*

Any town having less than three hundred ratable polls, shall be represented thus: the whole number of ratable polls, at the last preceding decennial census of polls, shall be multiplied by ten, and the product divided by three hundred, and such town may elect one

\* See Amendments, Arts. XIII. and XXI.

representative as many years within ten years as three hundred is contained in the product aforesaid.

Any city or town having ratable polls enough to elect one or more representatives, with any number of polls beyond the necessary number, may be represented as to that surplus number by multiplying such surplus number by ten, and dividing the product by four hundred and fifty; and such city or town may elect one additional representative as many years within the ten years as four hundred and fifty is contained in the product aforesaid.

Any two or more of the several towns and districts may, by consent of a majority of the legal voters present at a legal meeting in each of said towns and districts respectively, called for that purpose and held previous to the first day of July, in the year in which the decennial census of polls shall be taken, form themselves into a representative district, to continue until the next decennial census of polls, for the election of a representative or representatives; and such district shall have all the rights, in regard to representation, which would belong to a town containing the same number of ratable polls.

The Governor and Council shall ascertain and determine, within the months of July and August, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and thirty-seven, according to the foregoing principles, the number of representatives which each city, town, and representative district is entitled to elect, and the number of years within the period of ten years then next ensuing, that each city, town and representative district may elect an additional representative; and where any town has not a sufficient number of polls to elect a representative each year, then how many years within the ten years such town may elect a representative; and the same shall be done once in ten years thereafter, by the Governor and Council, and the number of ratable polls in each decennial census of polls, shall determine the number of representatives which each city, town and representative district may elect as aforesaid; and when the number of representatives to be elected by each city, town, or representative district, is ascertained or determined as aforesaid, the Governor shall cause the same to be published forthwith for the information of the people, and that number shall remain fixed and unalterable for the period of ten years.

All the provisions of the existing Constitution, inconsistent with the provisions herein contained, are hereby wholly annulled.

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*Article of Amendment, adopted April 17th, 1840, as the 13th Article of the Constitution.*

13. A census of the inhabitants of each city and town, on the first day of May, shall be taken, and returned into the Secretary's office, on or before the last day of June, of the year one thousand



eight hundred and forty, and of every tenth year thereafter, which census shall determine the apportionment of senators and representatives for the term of ten years.

The several senatorial districts now existing, shall be permanent. The Senate shall consist of forty members; and in the year one thousand eight hundred and forty, and every tenth year thereafter, the Governor and Council shall assign the number of senators to be chosen in each district, according to the number of inhabitants in the same. But, in all cases, at least one senator shall be assigned to each district.\*

The members of the House of Representatives shall be apportioned in the following manner: every town or city containing twelve hundred inhabitants, may elect one representative: and two thousand four hundred inhabitants shall be the mean increasing number which shall entitle it to an additional representative.†

Every town containing less than twelve hundred inhabitants, shall be entitled to elect a representative as many times, within ten years, as the number one hundred and sixty is contained in the number of the inhabitants of said town.

Such towns may also elect one representative for the year in which the valuation of estates within the Commonwealth shall be settled.

Any two or more of the several towns may, by consent of a majority of the legal voters present at a legal meeting, in each of said towns respectively, called for that purpose, and held before the first day of August, in the year one thousand eight hundred and forty, and every tenth year thereafter, form themselves into a representative district, to continue for the term of ten years; and such district shall have all the rights, in regard to representation, which would belong to a town containing the same number of inhabitants.

The number of inhabitants which shall entitle a town to elect one representative, and the mean increasing number which shall entitle a town or city to elect more than one, and also the number by which the population of towns, not entitled to a representative every year, is to be divided, shall be increased, respectively, by one tenth of the numbers above mentioned, whenever the population of the commonwealth shall have increased to seven hundred and seventy thousand, and for every additional increase of seventy thousand inhabitants, the same addition of one tenth shall be made, respectively, to the said numbers above mentioned.

In the year of each decennial census the Governor and Council shall, before the first day of September, apportion the number of representatives which each city, town, and representative district is entitled to elect, and ascertain how many years, within ten years, any town may elect a representative, which is not entitled to elect

\* See Amendments, Art. XXII.

† See Amendments, Art. XXI.

one every year; and the Governor shall cause the same to be published forthwith.

Nine counselors shall be annually chosen from among the people at large, on the first Wednesday of January, or as soon thereafter as may be, by the joint ballot of the senators and representatives assembled in one room, who shall, as soon as may be, in like manner, fill up any vacancies that may happen in the Council, by death, resignation, or otherwise. No person shall be elected a counselor, who has not been an inhabitant of this commonwealth for the term of five years immediately preceding his election; and not more than one counselor shall be chosen from any one senatorial district in the commonwealth.\*

No possession of a freehold, or of any other estate, shall be required as a qualification for holding a seat in either branch of the General Court, or in the Executive Council.

14. In all elections of civil officers by the people of this Commonwealth, whose election is provided for by the Constitution, the person having the highest number of votes shall be deemed and declared to be elected.

15. The meeting for the choice of Governor, Lieutenant-Governor, senators and representatives, shall be held on the Tuesday next after the first Monday in November, annually; but in case of a failure to elect representatives on that day, a second meeting shall be holden, for that purpose, on the fourth Monday of the same month of November.

16. Eight counselors shall be annually chosen by the inhabitants of this Commonwealth, qualified to vote for Governor. The election of counselors shall be determined by the same rule that is required in the election of Governor. The legislature, at its first session after this amendment shall have been adopted, and at its first session after the next State census shall have been taken, and at its first session after each decennial State census, thereafterwards, shall divide the Commonwealth into eight districts of contiguous territory, each containing a number of inhabitants as nearly equal as practicable, without dividing any town or ward of a city, and each entitled to elect one counselor: *provided, however*, that if, at any time, the Constitution shall provide for the division of the Commonwealth into forty senatorial districts, then the legislature shall so arrange the counselor districts that each district shall consist of five contiguous senatorial districts, as they shall be, from time to time, established by the legislature. No person shall be eligible to the office of counselor who has not been an inhabitant of the Commonwealth for the term of five years immediately preceding his election. The day and manner of the election, the return of the votes, and the declaration of the said elections, shall be the same as are required in the election of Governor. Whenever there shall be a failure to elect the full

\* See Amendments, Art. XVI.



number of counselors, the vacancies shall be filled in the same manner as is required for filling vacancies in the senate; and vacancies occasioned by death, removal from the State, or otherwise, shall be filled in like manner, as soon as may be after such vacancies shall have happened. And that there may be no delay in the organization of the government on the first Wednesday of January, the Governor, with at least five counselors for the time being, shall, as soon as may be, examine the returned copies of the records for the election of Governor, Lieutenant-Governor, and councillors; and ten days before the said first Wednesday in January, he shall issue his summons to such persons as appear to be chosen, to attend on that day to be qualified accordingly; and the Secretary shall lay the returns before the Senate and House of Representatives on the said first Wednesday in January, to be by them examined; and in case of the election of either of said officers, the choice shall be by them declared and published; but in case there shall be no election of either of said officers, the legislature shall proceed to fill such vacancies in the manner provided in the Constitution for the choice of such officers.

17. The Secretary, Treasurer, and Receiver-General, Auditor, and Attorney-General, shall be chosen annually, on the day in November prescribed for the choice of Governor; and each person then chosen as such, duly qualified in other respects, shall hold his office for the term of one year from the third Wednesday in January next thereafter, and until another is chosen and qualified in his stead. The qualification of the voters, the manner of the election, the return of the votes, and the declaration of the election, shall be such as are required in the election of Governor. In case of a failure to elect either of said officers on the day in November aforesaid, or in case of the decease, in the mean time, of the person elected as such, such officer shall be chosen on or before the third Wednesday in January next thereafter, from the two persons who had the highest number of votes for said offices on the day in November aforesaid, by joint ballot of the senators and representatives, in one room; and in case the office of secretary, or treasurer and receiver-general, or auditor, or attorney-general, shall become vacant, from any cause, during an annual or special session of the General Court, such vacancy shall in like manner be filled by choice from the people at large; but if such vacancy shall occur at any other time, it shall be supplied by the Governor by appointment, with the advice and consent of the council. The person so chosen or appointed, duly qualified in other respects, shall hold his office until his successor is chosen and duly qualified in his stead. In case any person chosen or appointed to either of the offices aforesaid, shall neglect, for the space of ten days after he could otherwise enter upon his duties, to qualify himself in all respects to enter upon the discharge of such duties, the office to which he has been elected or appointed shall be deemed vacant. No person shall be eligible to either of said offices

unless he shall have been an inhabitant of this Commonwealth five years next preceding his election or appointment.

18. All moneys raised by taxation in the towns and cities for the support of public schools, and all moneys which may be appropriated by the State for the support of common schools, shall be applied to, and expended in no other schools than those which are conducted according to law, under the order and superintendence of the authorities of the town or city in which the money is to be expended; and such moneys shall never be appropriated to any religious sect for the maintenance, exclusively, of its own school.

19. The legislature shall prescribe, by general law, for the election of sheriffs, registers of probate, commissioners of insolvency, and clerks of the courts, by the people of the several counties, and that district-attorneys shall be chosen by the people of the several districts, for such term of office as the legislature shall prescribe.

20. No person shall have the right to vote, or be eligible to office under the Constitution of this Commonwealth, who shall not be able to read the Constitution in the English language, and write his name: *provided, however,* that the provisions of this amendment shall not apply to any person prevented by a physical disability from complying with its requisitions, nor to any person who now has the right to vote, nor to any persons who shall be sixty years of age or upwards at the time this amendment shall take effect.

21. A census of the legal voters of each city and town, on the first day of May, shall be taken and returned into the office of the Secretary of the Commonwealth, on or before the last day of June, in the year one thousand eight hundred and fifty-seven; and a census of the inhabitants of each city and town, in the year one thousand eight hundred and sixty-five, and of every tenth year thereafter. In the census aforesaid, a special enumeration shall be made of the legal voters, and in each city said enumeration shall specify the number of such legal voters aforesaid; residing in each ward of such city. The enumeration aforesaid shall determine the apportionment of representatives for the periods between the taking of the census.

The House of Representatives shall consist of two hundred and forty members, which shall be apportioned by the legislature, at its first session after the return of each enumeration as aforesaid, to the several counties of the Commonwealth, equally, as nearly as may be, according to their relative numbers of legal voters, as ascertained by the next preceding special enumeration; and the town of Cohasset, in the county of Norfolk, shall, for this purpose, as well as in the formation of districts, as hereinafter provided, be considered a part of the county of Plymouth; and it shall be the duty of the Secretary of the Commonwealth, to certify, as soon as may be, after it is determined by the legislature, the number of representatives to which each county shall be entitled, to the board authorized to divide each county into representative districts. The mayor and



aldermen of the city of Boston, the county commissioners of other counties than Suffolk,—or in lieu of the mayor and aldermen of the city of Boston, or of the county commissioners in each county other than Suffolk, such board of special commissioners in each county, to be elected by the people of the county, or of the towns therein, as may for that purpose be provided by law, shall, on the first Tuesday of August next after each assignment of representatives to each county, assemble at a shire town of their respective counties, and proceed, as soon as may be, to divide the same into representative districts of contiguous territory, so as to apportion the representation assigned to each county equally, as nearly as may be, according to the relative number of legal voters in the several districts of each county; and such districts shall be so formed, that no town or ward of a city shall be divided therefor, nor shall any district be made which shall be entitled to elect more than three representatives. Every representative, for one year at least preceding his election, shall have been an inhabitant of the district for which he is chosen, and shall cease to represent such district when he shall cease to be an inhabitant of the Commonwealth. The districts in each county shall be numbered by the board creating the same, and a description of each, with the numbers thereof, and the number of legal voters therein, shall be returned by the board, to the secretary of the Commonwealth, the county treasurer of each county, and to the clerk of every town in each district, to be filed and kept in their respective offices. The manner of calling and conducting the meetings for the choice of representatives, and of ascertaining their election, shall be prescribed by law. Not less than one hundred members of the House of Representatives shall constitute a quorum for doing business; but a less number may organize temporarily, adjourn from day to day, and compel the attendance of absent members.

22. A census of the legal voters of each city and town, on the first day of May, shall be taken and returned into the office of the Secretary of the Commonwealth, on or before the last day of June, in the year one thousand eight hundred and fifty-seven; and a census of the inhabitants of each city and town, in the year one thousand eight hundred and sixty-five, and of every tenth year thereafter. In the census aforesaid, a special enumeration shall be made of the legal voters, and in each city said enumeration shall specify the number of such legal voters aforesaid, residing in each ward of such city. The enumeration aforesaid shall determine the apportionment of senators for the periods between the taking of the census. The Senate shall consist of forty members. The General Court shall, at its first session after each next preceding special enumeration, divide the Commonwealth into forty districts of adjacent territory, each district to contain, as nearly as may be, an equal number of legal voters, according to the enumeration aforesaid:—*provided, however*, that no town or ward of a city shall be divided therefor; and such districts shall be formed, as nearly as may be,

without uniting two counties, or parts of two or more counties, into one district. Each district shall elect one senator, who shall have been an inhabitant of this Commonwealth five years at least immediately preceding his election, and at the time of his election shall be an inhabitant of the district for which he is chosen; and he shall cease to represent such senatorial district when he shall cease to be an inhabitant of the Commonwealth. Not less than sixteen senators shall constitute a quorum for doing business; but a less number may organize temporarily, adjourn from day to day, and compel the attendance of absent members.

NOTE.—The Constitution of Massachusetts was agreed upon by delegates of the people, in convention, begun and held at Cambridge, on the first day of September, 1779, and continued by adjournments to the second day of March, 1780, when the convention adjourned to meet on the first Wednesday of the ensuing June. In the mean time the Constitution was submitted to the people, to be adopted by them, provided two-thirds of the votes given should be in the affirmative. When the convention assembled, it was found that the Constitution had been adopted by the requisite number of votes, and the convention accordingly *Resolved*, "That the said Constitution or Frame of Government shall take place on the last Wednesday of October next; and not before, for any purpose, save only for that of making elections, agreeable to this resolution." The first legislature assembled at Boston, on the twenty-fifth day of October, 1780.

The first nine Articles of Amendment were submitted, by delegates in convention assembled, November 15, 1820, to the people, and by them approved and adopted, April 9, 1821.

The tenth Article of Amendment was adopted by the legislatures of the political years 1829-30, and 1830-31, respectively, and was approved and ratified by the people, May 11, 1831.

The eleventh Article of Amendment was adopted by the legislatures of the political years 1832 and 1833, respectively, and was approved and ratified by the people, November 11, 1833.

The twelfth Article of Amendment was adopted by the legislatures of the political years 1835 and 1836, respectively, and was approved and ratified by the people, the fourteenth day of November, 1836.

The thirteenth Article of Amendment was adopted by the legislatures of the political years 1839 and 1840, respectively, and was approved and ratified by the people, the sixth day of April, 1840.

The fourteenth, fifteenth, sixteenth, seventeenth, eighteenth, and nineteenth Articles of Amendment were adopted by the legislatures of the political years 1854 and 1855 respectively, and ratified by the people, the twenty-third day of May, 1855.

The twentieth, twenty-first, and twenty-second Articles of Amendment were adopted by the legislatures of the political years 1856 and 1857, respectively, and ratified by the people on the first day of May, 1857.



## RHODE ISLAND.



THIS is the smallest State in the union. Its resources are greater, in proportion to its inhabitants, than any other State. The first settlement was at Providence, in 1643, by Roger Williams, and his associates, who were banished from Massachusetts on account of their views of religious toleration. (*See Gammel's Life of Roger Williams, published by Gould, Kendall & Lincoln, Boston, 1846.*) This State embraces what were once the Rhode Island and Providence plantations. In 1643, Mr. Williams went to England, and obtained a patent from the Plymouth Colony, by which the two plantations were united under one government. In 1663, upon the restoration of Charles II. to the throne, a new charter was granted, which formed the basis of government till 1842, when the present Constitution was adopted. Thus, for almost two centuries, was Rhode Island without a written Constitution—showing to the world what a *self-governed people* may do.

Area, 1,360 sq. m. Population, in 1850, 147,544.

## CONSTITUTION

*Ratified by the Vote of the People, Nov. 21, 22, and 23, 1842.*

WE, the people of the State of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations, grateful to Almighty God for the civil and religious liberty which He hath so long permitted us to enjoy, and looking to Him for a blessing upon our endeavors to secure and to transmit the same, unimpaired, to succeeding generations, do ordain and establish this Constitution of Government.

## ARTICLE I.

*Declaration of certain Constitutional Rights and Principles.*

In order effectually to secure the religious and political freedom established by our venerated ancestors, and to preserve the same for our posterity, we do declare that the essential and unquestionable rights and principles hereinafter mentioned, shall be established, maintained, and preserved, and shall be of paramount obligation in all legislative, judicial and executive proceedings.

SEC. 1. In the words of the Father of his Country, we declare, that "the basis of our political systems is the right of the people to make and alter their constitutions of government; but that the Constitution which at any time exists, till changed by an explicit and authentic act of the whole people, is sacredly obligatory upon all."

2. All free governments are instituted for the protection, safety, and happiness of the people. All laws, therefore, should be made for the good of the whole; and the burdens of the State ought to be fairly distributed among its citizens.

3. Whereas, Almighty God hath created the mind free; and all attempts to influence it by temporal punishments or burthens, or by civil incapacitations, tend to beget habits of hypocrisy and meanness; and whereas a principal object of our venerated ancestors, in their migration to this country and their settlement of this State, was, as they expressed it, to hold forth a lively experiment that a flourishing civil State may stand and be best maintained with full liberty in religious concerns: we, therefore, declare, that no man shall be compelled to frequent or to support any religious worship, place or ministry whatever, except in fulfilment of his own voluntary contract; nor enforced, restrained, molested or burthened in his body or goods; nor disqualified from holding any office; nor otherwise suffer on account of his religious belief: and that every man shall be free to worship God according to the dictates of his own conscience, and to profess and by argument to maintain his opinion in matters of religion; and that the same shall in no wise diminish, enlarge or affect his civil capacity.

4. Slavery shall not be permitted in this State.

5. Every person within this State ought to find a certain remedy, by having recourse to the laws, for all injuries or wrongs which he may receive in his person, property or character. He ought to obtain right and justice freely, and without purchase, completely and without denial; promptly and without delay; conformably to the laws.

6. The right of the people to be secure in their persons, papers, and possessions, against unreasonable searches and seizures, shall not be violated; and no warrant shall issue, but on complaint in writing, upon probable cause, supported by oath or affirmation, and describing, as nearly as may be, the place to be searched and the persons or things to be seized.



7. No person shall be held to answer for a capital or other infamous crime, unless on presentment or indictment by a grand jury, except in cases of impeachment, or of such offences as are cognizable by a justice of the peace; or in cases arising in the land or naval forces, or in the militia, when in actual service in time of war or public danger. No person shall, after an acquittal, be tried for the same offence.

8. Excessive bail shall not be required, nor excessive fines imposed, nor cruel punishments inflicted; and all punishments ought to be proportioned to the offence.

9. All persons imprisoned ought to be bailed by sufficient surety, unless for offences punishable by death or by imprisonment for life, when the proof of guilt is evident, or the presumption great. The privilege of the writ of habeas corpus shall not be suspended, unless when in cases of rebellion or invasion the public safety shall require it; nor ever without the authority of the General Assembly.

10. In all criminal prosecutions, the accused shall enjoy the right to a speedy and public trial, by an impartial jury; to be informed of the nature and cause of the accusation, to be confronted with the witnesses against him, to have compulsory process for obtaining them in his favor, to have the assistance of counsel in his defence, and shall be at liberty to speak for himself; nor shall he be deprived of life, liberty, or property, unless by the judgment of his peers, or the law of the land.

11. The person of a debtor, when there is not strong presumption of fraud, ought not to be continued in prison, after he shall have delivered up his property for the benefit of his creditors, in such manner as shall be prescribed by law.

12. No ex post facto law, or law impairing the obligation of contracts, shall be passed.

13. No man in a court of common law shall be compelled to give evidence criminating himself.

14. Every man being presumed innocent, until he is pronounced guilty by the law, no act of severity which is not necessary to secure an accused person, shall be permitted.

15. The right of trial by jury shall remain inviolate.

16. Private property shall not be taken for public uses, without just compensation.

17. The people shall continue to enjoy and freely exercise all the rights of fishery, and the privileges of the shore, to which they have been heretofore entitled under the charter and usages of this State. But no new right is intended to be granted, nor any existing right impaired by this declaration.

18. The military shall be held in strict subordination to the civil authority. And the law martial shall be used and exercised in such cases only as occasion shall necessarily require.

19. No soldier shall be quartered in any house, in time of peace.

without the consent of the owner; nor, in time of war, but in manner to be prescribed by law.

20. The liberty of the press being essential to the security of freedom in a state, any person may publish his sentiments on any subject, being responsible for the abuse of that liberty; and in all trials for libel, both civil and criminal, the truth, unless published from malicious motives, shall be sufficient defense to the person charged.

21. The citizens have a right in a peaceable manner to assemble for their common good, and to apply to those invested with the powers of government, for redress of grievances, or for other purposes, by petition, address, or remonstrance.

22. The right of the people to keep and bear arms, shall not be infringed.

23. The enumeration of the foregoing rights shall not be construed to impair or deny others retained by the people.

## ARTICLE II.

### *Of the Qualification of Electors.*

SEC. 1. Every male citizen of the United States, of the age of twenty-one years, who has had his residence and home in this State for one year, and in the town or city in which he may claim a right to vote, six months next preceding the time of voting, and who is really and truly possessed in his own right of real estate in such town or city of the value of one hundred and thirty-four dollars over and above all incumbrances, or which shall rent for seven dollars per annum over and above any rent reserved or the interest of any incumbrances thereon, being an estate in fee simple, fee tail, for the life of any person, or an estate in reversion or remainder, which qualifies no other person to vote, the conveyance of which estate, if by deed, shall have been recorded at least ninety days, shall thereafter have a right to vote in the election of all civil officers, and on all questions in all legal town or ward meetings so long as he continues so qualified. And if any person hereinbefore described shall own any such estate within this State out of the town or city in which he resides, he shall have a right to vote in the election of all general officers and members of the General Assembly in the town or city in which he shall have had his residence and home for the term of six months next preceding the election, upon producing a certificate from the clerk of the town or city in which his estate lies, bearing date within ten days of the time of his voting, setting forth that such person has a sufficient estate therein to qualify him as a voter; and that the deed, if any, has been recorded ninety days.

2. Every male native citizen of the United States, of the age of twenty-one years, who has had his residence and home in this State two years and in the town or city in which he may offer to vote, six months next preceding the time of voting, whose name is registered pursuant to the act calling the convention to frame this Constitu



tion, or shall be registered in the office of the clerk of such town or city at least seven days before the time he shall offer to vote, and before the last day of December in the present year; and who has paid or shall pay a tax or taxes assessed upon his estate within this State and within a year of the time of voting to the amount of one dollar, or who shall voluntarily pay at least seven days before the time he shall offer to vote, and before said last day of December, to the clerk or treasurer of the town or city where he resides, the sum of one dollar, or such sum as with his other taxes, shall amount to one dollar, for the support of public schools therein, and shall make proof of the same, by the certificate of the clerk, treasurer or collector of any town or city where such payment is made: or, who being so registered, has been enrolled in any military company in this State, and done military service or duty therein, within the present year, pursuant to law, and shall, (until other proof is required by law,) prove by the certificate of the officer legally commanding the regiment, or chartered, or legally authorized volunteer company in which he may have served or done duty, that he has been equipped and done duty according to law, or by the certificate of the commissioners upon military claims, that he has performed military service, shall have a right to vote in the election of all civil officers, and on all questions in all legally organized town or ward meetings, until the end of the first year after the adoption of this Constitution, or until the end of the year eighteen hundred and forty-three.

From and after that time, every such citizen who has had the residence herein required, and whose name shall be registered in the town where he resides, on or before the last day of December, in the year next preceding the time of his voting, and who shall show by legal proof, that he has for and within the year next preceding the time he shall offer to vote, paid a tax or taxes assessed against him in any town or city in this State, to the amount of one dollar, or that he has been enrolled in a military company in this State, been equipped and done duty therein, according to law, and at least, for one day during such year, shall have a right to vote in the election of all civil officers, and on all questions in all legally organized town or ward meetings: Provided, that no person shall at any time be allowed to vote in the election of the city Council of the city of Providence, or upon any proposition to impose a tax, or for the expenditure of money in any town or city, unless he shall within the year next preceding, have paid a tax, assessed upon his property therein, valued at least at one hundred and thirty-four dollars.

3. The assessors of each town or city, shall annually assess upon every person whose name shall be registered, a tax of one dollar, or such sum as with his other taxes, shall amount to one dollar, which registry tax shall be paid into the treasury of such town or city, and be applied to the support of public schools therein: But no compulsory process shall issue for the collection of any registry tax: Provided, that the registry tax of every person who has performed

military duty according to the provisions of the preceding section, shall be remitted for the year he shall perform such duty ; and the registry tax assessed upon any mariner, for any year while he is at sea, shall, upon his application, be remitted ; and no person shall be allowed to vote whose registry tax for either of the two years next preceding the time of voting is not paid or remitted as herein provided.

4. No person in the military, naval, marine, or any other service of the United States, shall be considered as having the required residence by reason of being employed in any garrison, barrack or military or naval station in this State : and no pauper, lunatic, person non compos mentis, person under guardianship, or members of the Narragansett tribe of Indians, shall be permitted to be registered or to vote. Nor shall any person convicted of bribery or of any crime deemed infamous at common law, be permitted to exercise that privilege, until he be expressly restored thereto by act of the General Assembly.

5. Persons residing on lands ceded by this State to the United States, shall not be entitled to exercise the privilege of electors.

6. The General Assembly shall have full power to provide for a registry of voters, to prescribe the manner of conducting the elections, the form of certificates, the nature of the evidence to be required in case of a dispute as to the right of any person to vote, and generally to enact all laws necessary to carry this article into effect, and to prevent abuse, corruption, and fraud in voting.

### ARTICLE III.—*Of the Distribution of Powers.*

The powers of the government shall be distributed into three departments ; the Legislative, Executive, and Judicial.

### ARTICLE IV.—*Of the Legislative Power.*

SEC. 1. This Constitution shall be the supreme law of the State, and any law inconsistent therewith shall be void. The General Assembly shall pass all laws necessary to carry this Constitution into effect.

2. The Legislative power, under this Constitution, shall be vested in two houses, the one to be called the Senate, the other the House of Representatives ; and both together the General Assembly. The concurrence of the two houses shall be necessary to the enactment of laws. The style of their laws shall be, *It is enacted by the General Assembly as follows :*

3. There shall be two sessions of the General Assembly holden annually ; one at Newport, on the first Tuesday of May, for the purposes of election and other business ; the other on the last Monday of October, which last session shall be holden at South Kingstown, once in two years, and the intermediate years alternately at Bristol, and East Greenwich ; and an adjournment from the October session shall be holden annually at Providence.



4. No member of the General Assembly shall take any fee, or be of counsel in any case pending before either house of the General Assembly, under penalty of forfeiting his seat, upon proof thereof to the satisfaction of the house of which he is a member.

5. The person of every member of the General Assembly shall be exempt from arrest, and his estate from attachment in any civil action, during the session of the General Assembly, and two days before the commencement, and two days after the termination thereof, and all process served contrary hereto shall be void. For any speech in debate in either house, no member shall be questioned in any other place.

6. Each house shall be the judge of the elections and qualifications of its members; and a majority shall constitute a quorum to do business; but a smaller number may adjourn from day to day, and may compel the attendance of absent members, in such manner, and under such penalties as may be prescribed by such house or by law. The organization of the two houses may be regulated by law, subject to the limitations contained in this Constitution.

7. Each house may determine its rules of proceeding, punish contempt, punish its members for disorderly behavior, and, with the concurrence of two-thirds, expel a member; but not a second time for the same cause.

8. Each house shall keep a journal of its proceedings. The yeas and nays of the members of either house, shall, at the desire of one-fifth of those present, be entered on the journal.

9. Neither house shall, during a session, without the consent of the other, adjourn for more than two days, nor to any other place than that in which they may be sitting.

10. The General Assembly shall continue to exercise the powers they have heretofore exercised, unless prohibited in this Constitution.

11. The senators and representatives shall receive the sum of one dollar for every day of attendance, and eight cents per mile for traveling expenses in going to and returning from the General Assembly. The General Assembly shall regulate the compensation of the Governor and all other officers, subject to the limitations contained in this Constitution.

12. All lotteries shall hereafter be prohibited in this State, except those already authorized by the General Assembly.

13. The General Assembly shall have no power, hereafter, without the express consent of the people, to incur State debts to an amount exceeding fifty thousand dollars, except in time of war, or in case of insurrection or invasion, nor shall they in any case, without such consent, pledge the faith of the State for the payment of the obligations of others. This section shall not be construed to refer to any money that may be deposited with this State by the Government of the United States.

14. The assent of two-thirds of the members elected to each House

of the General Assembly shall be required to every bill appropriating the public money or property for local or private purposes.

15. The General Assembly shall, from time to time, provide for making new valuations of property, for the assessment of taxes, in such manner as they may deem best. A new estimate of such property shall be taken before the first direct State tax, after the adoption of this Constitution, shall be assessed.

16. The General Assembly may provide by law for the continuance in office of any officers of annual election or appointment, until other persons are qualified to take their places.

17. Hereafter, when any bill shall be presented to either house of the General Assembly, to create a corporation for any other than for religious, literary, or charitable purposes, or for a military, or fire company, it shall be continued until another election of members of the General Assembly shall have taken place, and such public notice of the pendency thereof shall be given as may be required by law.

18. It shall be the duty of the two houses upon the request of either, to join in grand committee for the purpose of electing Senators in Congress, at such times and in such manner as may be prescribed by law for said elections.

#### ARTICLE V.—*Of the House of Representatives.*

SEC. 1. The House of Representatives shall never exceed seventy-two members, and shall be constituted on the basis of population, always allowing one representative for a fraction exceeding half the ratio; but each town or city shall always be entitled to at least one member; and no town or city shall have more than one-sixth of the whole number of members to which the House is hereby limited. The present ratio shall be one representative to every fifteen hundred and thirty inhabitants, and the General Assembly may, after any new census taken by the authority of the United States, or of this State, re-apportion the representation by altering the ratio; but no town or city shall be divided into districts for the choice of representatives.

2. The House of Representatives shall have authority to elect its speaker, clerks, and other officers. The senior member from the town of Newport, if any be present, shall preside in the organization of the House.

#### ARTICLE VI.—*Of the Senate.*

SEC. 1. The Senate shall consist of the Lieutenant-Governor, and of one Senator from each town or city in the State.

2. The Governor, and, in his absence, the Lieutenant-Governor, shall preside in the Senate and in grand committee. The presiding officer of the Senate and grand committee shall have a right to vote in case of equal division, but not otherwise.

3. If, by reason of death, resignation, absence, or other cause,



there be no Governor or Lieutenant-Governor present, to preside in the Senate, the Senate shall elect one of their own members to preside during such absence or vacancy; and until such election is made by the Senate, the Secretary of State shall preside.

4. The Secretary of State shall, by virtue of his office, be Secretary of the Senate, unless otherwise provided by law; and the Senate may elect such other officers as they may deem necessary.

#### ARTICLE VII.—*Of the Executive Power.*

SEC. 1. The chief executive power of this State shall be vested in a Governor, who, together with a Lieutenant-Governor, shall be annually elected by the people.

2. The Governor shall take care that the laws be faithfully executed.

3. He shall be captain-general and commander-in-chief of the military and naval forces of this State, except when they shall be called into the service of the United States.

4. He shall have power to grant reprieves after conviction, in all cases except those of impeachment, until the end of the next session of the General Assembly.

5. He may fill vacancies in office not otherwise provided for by this Constitution or by law, until the same shall be filled by the General Assembly, or by the people.

6. In case of disagreement between the two houses of the General Assembly, respecting the time or place of adjournment, certified to him by either, he may adjourn them to such time and place as he shall think proper; provided that the time of adjournment shall not be extended beyond the day of the next stated session.

7. He may, on extraordinary occasions, convene the General Assembly at any town or city in this State, at any time not provided for by law; and in case of danger from the prevalence of epidemic or contagious disease, in the place in which the General Assembly are by law to meet, or to which they may have been adjourned; or for other urgent reasons, he may, by proclamation, convene said Assembly, at any other place within this State.

8. All commissions shall be in the name and by authority of the State of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations; shall be sealed with the State seal, signed by the Governor and attested by the Secretary.

9. In case of vacancy in the office of Governor, or of his inability to serve, impeachment, or absence from the State, the Lieutenant-Governor shall fill the office of Governor and exercise the powers and authority appertaining thereto, until a Governor is qualified to act, or until the office is filled at the next annual election.

10. If the offices of Governor and Lieutenant-Governor be both vacant by reason of death, resignation, impeachment, absence, or otherwise, the person entitled to preside over the Senate for the time being, shall in like manner fill the office of Governor during such absence or vacancy.

11. The compensation of the Governor and Lieutenant-Governor shall be established by law, and shall not be diminished during the term for which they are elected.

12. The duties and powers of the Secretary, Attorney-General, and General Treasurer, shall be the same under this Constitution as are now established, or as from time to time may be prescribed by law.

#### ARTICLE VIII.—*Of Elections.*

SEC. 1. The Governor, Lieutenant-Governor, senators, representatives, Secretary of State, Attorney-General, and General Treasurer, shall be elected at the town, city, or ward meetings, to be holden on the first Wednesday of April annually; and shall severally hold their offices for one year, from the first Tuesday of May next, succeeding, and until others are legally chosen, and duly qualified to fill their places. If elected or qualified after the said first Tuesday of May, they shall hold their offices for the remainder of the political year, and until their successors are qualified to act.

2. The voting for Governor, Lieutenant-Governor, Secretary of State, Attorney-General, General Treasurer, and representatives to Congress, shall be by ballot; senators and representatives to the General Assembly, and town or city officers, shall be chosen by ballot on demand of any seven persons entitled to vote for the same; and in all cases where an election is made by ballot or paper vote, the manner of balloting shall be the same as is now required in voting for general officers, until otherwise prescribed by law.

3. The names of the persons voted for as Governor, Lieutenant-Governor, Secretary of State, Attorney-General, and General Treasurer, shall be placed upon one ticket, and all votes for these officers shall, in open town or ward meetings, be sealed up by the moderators and town clerks and by the wardens and ward clerks, who shall certify the same and deliver or send them to the Secretary of State; whose duty it shall be securely to keep and deliver the same to the grand committee, after the organization of the two houses at the annual May session; and it shall be the duty of the two houses, at said session after their organization, upon the request of either house, to join in grand committee, for the purpose of counting and declaring said votes, and of electing other officers.

4. The town and ward clerks shall also keep a correct list or register, of all persons voting for general officers, and shall transmit a copy thereof to the General Assembly, on or before the first day of said May session.

5. The ballots for senators and representatives in the several towns, shall in each case after the polls are declared to be closed, be counted by the moderator, who shall announce the result, and the clerk shall give certificates to the persons elected. If, in any case, there be no election, the polls may be re-opened, and the like proceedings shall be had until an election shall take place: Provided,



however, that an adjournment or adjournments of the election may be made to a time not exceeding seven days from the first meeting.

6. In the city of Providence, the polls for senator and representatives shall be kept open during the whole time of voting for the day, and the votes in the several wards shall be sealed up at the close of the meeting by the wardens and ward clerks in open ward meeting, and afterwards delivered to the city clerk. The Mayor and Aldermen shall proceed to count said votes within two days from the day of election; and if no election of senator and representatives, or if an election of only a portion of the representatives shall have taken place, the Mayor and Aldermen shall order a new election, to be held not more than ten days from the day of the first election, and so on until the election shall be completed. Certificates of election shall be furnished by the city clerk to the persons chosen.

7. If no person shall have a majority of votes for Governor, it shall be the duty of the grand committee to elect one by ballot from the two persons having the highest number of votes for the office, except when such a result is produced by rejecting the entire vote of any town, or city, or ward, for informality or illegality, in which case a new election by the electors throughout the State shall be ordered: and in case no person shall have a majority of votes for Lieutenant-Governor, it shall be the duty of the grand committee to elect one by ballot from the two persons having the highest number of votes for the office.

8. In case an election of the Secretary of State, Attorney-General, or General Treasurer, should fail to be made by the electors at the annual election, the vacancy or vacancies shall be filled by the General Assembly in grand committee, from the two candidates for such office having the greatest number of the votes of the electors. Or in case of a vacancy in either of said offices from other causes, between the sessions of the General Assembly, the Governor shall appoint some person to fill the same until a successor elected by the General Assembly is qualified to act; and in such case, and also, in all other cases of vacancies, not otherwise provided for, the General Assembly may fill the same in any manner they may deem proper.

9. Vacancies from any cause in the Senate or House of Representatives may be filled up by a new election.

10. In all elections held by the people, under this Constitution, a majority of all the electors voting shall be necessary to the election of the persons voted for.

#### ARTICLE IX.—*Of Qualifications for Office.*

SEC. 1. No person shall be eligible to any civil office, (except the office of school committee,) unless he be a qualified elector for such office.

2. Every person shall be disqualified from holding any office to which he may have been elected, if he be convicted of having offer-

ed or procured any other person to offer, any bribe to secure his election, or the election of any other person.

3. All general officers shall take the following engagement before they act in their respective offices, to wit: You being by the free vote of the electors of this State of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations, elected unto the place of do solemnly swear (or affirm) to be true and faithful unto this State, and to support the Constitution of this State, and of the United States; that you will faithfully and impartially discharge all the duties of your aforesaid office to the best of your abilities, according to law; So help you God. Or, this affirmation you make, and give upon the peril of the penalty of perjury.

4. The members of the General Assembly, the judges of all the courts, and all other officers, both civil and military, shall be bound by oath or affirmation to support this Constitution, and the Constitution of the United States.

5. The oath, or affirmation, shall be administered to the Governor, Lieutenant-Governor, senators and representatives, by the Secretary of State, or, in his absence, by the Attorney-General. The Secretary of State, Attorney General, and General Treasurer, shall be engaged by the Governor, or by a justice of the Supreme Court.

6. No person holding any office under the government of the United States, or of any other State or country, shall act as a general officer, or as a member of the General-Assembly, unless at the time of taking his engagement, he shall have resigned his office under such government; and if any general officer, senator, representative, or judge shall, after his election and engagement, accept any appointment under any other government, his office under this shall be immediately vacated; But this restriction shall not apply to any person appointed to take depositions or acknowledgments of deeds, or other legal instruments, by the authority of any other State or country.

#### ARTICLE X.—*Of the Judicial Power.*

SEC. 1. The judicial power of this State shall be vested in one Supreme Court, and in such inferior courts as the General Assembly may, from time to time, ordain and establish.

2. The several courts shall have such jurisdiction as may from time to time be prescribed by law. Chancery powers may be conferred on the Supreme Court, but on no other court to any greater extent than is now provided by law.

3. The judges of the Supreme Court shall, in all trials, instruct the jury in the law. They shall also give their written opinion upon any question of law, whenever requested by the Governor, or by either house of the General Assembly.

4. The judges of the Supreme Court shall be elected by the two houses in grand committee. Each judge shall hold his office until his place be declared vacant by a resolution of the General Assem-



bly to that effect ; which resolution shall be voted for by a majority of all the members elected to the house in which it may originate, and be concurred in by the same majority of the other house. Such resolution shall not be entertained at any other than the annual session for the election of public officers ; and in default of the passage thereof at said session, the judge shall hold his place as is herein provided. But a judge of any court shall be removed from office, if, upon impeachment, he shall be found guilty of any official misdemeanor.

5. In case of vacancy by death, resignation, removal from the State or from office, refusal or inability to serve, of any judge of the Supreme Court, the office may be filled by the grand committee, until the next annual election, and the judge then elected shall hold his office as before provided. In cases of impeachment, or temporary absence or inability, the Governor may appoint a person to discharge the duties of the office during the vacancy caused thereby.

6. The judges of the Supreme Court shall receive a compensation for their services, which shall not be diminished during their continuance in office.

7. The towns of New Shoreham and Jamestown may continue to elect their wardens as heretofore. The other towns and the city of Providence may elect such number of justices of the peace, resident therein, as they may deem proper. The jurisdiction of said justices and wardens shall be regulated by law. The justices shall be commissioned by the Governor.

#### ARTICLE XI.—*Of Impeachments.*

SEC. 1. The House of Representatives shall have the sole power of impeachments. A vote of two-thirds of all the members elected shall be required for an impeachment of the Governor. Any officer impeached, shall thereby be suspended from office until judgment in the case shall have been pronounced.

2. All the impeachments shall be tried by the Senate ; and when sitting for that purpose, they shall be under oath or affirmation. No person shall be convicted except by vote of two-thirds of the members elected. When the Governor is impeached, the chief or presiding justice of the Supreme Court for the time being, shall preside, with a casting vote in all preliminary questions.

3. The Governor and all other executive and judicial officers, shall be liable to impeachment ; but judgment in such cases shall not extend further than to removal from office. The person convicted, shall, nevertheless, be liable to indictment, trial, and punishment, according to law

#### ARTICLE XII.—*Of Education.*

SEC. 1. The diffusion of knowledge, as well as of virtue, among the people, being essential to the preservation of their rights and liber-

ties, it shall be the duty of the General Assembly to promote public schools, and to adopt all means which they may deem necessary and proper to secure to the people the advantages and opportunities of education.

2. The money which now is, or which may hereafter be appropriated by law for the establishment of a permanent fund for the support of public schools, shall be securely invested and remain a perpetual fund for that purpose.

3. All donations for the support of public schools or for other purposes of education, which may be received by the General Assembly, shall be applied according to the terms prescribed by the donors.

4. The General Assembly shall make all necessary provisions by law for carrying this article into effect. They shall not divert said money or fund from the aforesaid uses, nor borrow, appropriate, or use the same, or any part thereof, for any other purpose, under any pretence whatsoever.

#### ARTICLE XIII.—*On Amendments.*

The General Assembly may propose amendments to this Constitution by the votes of a majority of all the members elected to each house. Such propositions for amendment shall be published in the newspapers, and printed copies of them shall be sent by the Secretary of State, with the names of all the members who shall have voted thereon, with the yeas and nays, to all the town and city clerks in the State. The said propositions shall be, by said clerks, inserted in the warrants or notices by them issued, for warning the next annual town and ward meetings in April; and the clerks shall read said propositions to the electors when thus assembled, with the names of all the representatives and senators who shall have voted thereon, with the yeas and nays, before the election of senators and representatives shall be had. If a majority of all the members elected to each house, at said annual meeting, shall approve any proposition thus made, the same shall be published and submitted to the electors in the mode provided in the act of approval; and if then approved by three-fifths of the electors of the State present, and voting thereon in town and ward meetings, it shall become a part of the Constitution of the State.

#### ARTICLE XIV.—*Of the Adoption of this Constitution.*

SEC. 1. This Constitution, if adopted, shall go into operation on the first Tuesday of May, in the year one thousand eight hundred and forty-three. The first election of Governor, Lieutenant-Governor, Secretary of State, Attorney-General, and General Treasurer, and of senators and representatives under said Constitution, shall be had on the first Wednesday of April next preceding, by the electors qualified under said Constitution. And the town and ward meet-



ings, therefore, shall be warned and conducted as is now provided by law. All civil and military officers now elected, or who shall hereafter be elected, by the General Assembly, or other competent authority, before the said first Wednesday of April, shall hold their offices and may exercise their powers until the said first Tuesday of May, or until their successors shall be qualified to act. All statutes, public and private, not repugnant to this Constitution, shall continue in force until they expire by their own limitation, or are repealed by the General Assembly. All charters, contracts, judgments, actions, and rights of action, shall be as valid as if this Constitution had not been made. The present government shall exercise all the powers with which it is now clothed, until the said first Tuesday of May, one thousand eight hundred and forty-three, and until the government under this Constitution is duly organized.

2. All debts contracted and engagements entered into, before the adoption of this Constitution, shall be as valid against the State as if this Constitution had not been adopted.

3. The Supreme Court, established by this Constitution, shall have the same jurisdiction as the Supreme Judicial Court at present established, and shall have jurisdiction of all causes which may be appealed to, or pending in the same; and shall be held at the same times and places, and in each county, as the present Supreme Judicial Court, until otherwise prescribed by the General Assembly.

4. The towns of New Shoreham and Jamestown shall continue to enjoy the exemptions from military duty which they now enjoy, until otherwise prescribed by law.

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## ARTICLES OF AMENDMENT,

[*Adopted, November, 1854.*]

ART. 1. It shall not be necessary for the town or ward clerks to keep and transmit to the General Assembly a list or register of all persons voting for general officers; but the General Assembly shall have power to pass such laws on the subject as they may deem expedient.

2. The Governor, by and with the advice and consent of the Senate, shall, hereafter, exclusively exercise the pardoning power, except in cases of impeachment; to the same extent as such power is now exercised by the General Assembly.

3. There shall be one session of the General Assembly holden annually, commencing on the last Tuesday in May, at Newport; and an adjournment from the same shall be holden annually at Providence.

## CONNECTICUT.



This State consisted, at its first settlement, of three colonies, called **Hartford**, New Haven, and Saybrook colonies. The colony of Saybrook afterwards became united with Hartford. The first English settlement was at Windsor, in 1633, by emigrants from Massachusetts—then a journey of fourteen days from Boston—now of five hours. New Haven colony was settled by the English in 1638. In 1662 these colonies were united under one government by a charter from Charles II. The New Haven colony refused to accede to this charter until 1665. This charter was suspended in 1686, and Sir Edmund Andross was appointed Governor-General of New England. Upon his arrival at Boston, he wrote to the colony of Connecticut, demanding of them their charter. This they refused. In October, 1687, the Assembly met, as usual, at Hartford. About this time, Sir Edmund, with his suit of more than sixty regular troops, made their appearance in the Assembly, and demanded of them their charter, declaring their government under it dissolved. A long discussion ensued, which continued till evening. Meantime a large number of the inhabitants came together to witness the result. The charter was at length brought and laid upon the table. Suddenly, at a signal, the lights were all extinguished, and one Capt. Wadsworth, of Hartford, seized the charter and bore it away, secreting it in a large hollow oak, standing near the place. By this means, it was preserved. (See Barber's Hist. Collections of Conn.) This charter was confirmed after the revolution in England, of 1688, and formed the basis of government until 1818, when the present Constitution was adopted.

Area, 4,674 sq. m. Pop., in 1850, 370,791.



## CONSTITUTION.

## PREAMBLE.

THE people of Connecticut, acknowledging, with gratitude, the good providence of God in having permitted them to enjoy a free government, do, in order more effectually to define, secure, and perpetuate the liberties, rights, and privileges which they have derived from their ancestors, hereby, after a careful consideration and revision, ordain and establish the following Constitution and form of civil government.

ARTICLE I.—*Declaration of Rights.*

That the great and essential principles of liberty and free government may be recognized and established, we declare :

SEC. 1. That all men, when they form a social compact, are equal in rights ; and that no man, or set of men, are entitled to exclusive public emoluments or privileges from the community.

2. That all political power is inherent in the people, and all free governments are founded on their authority, and instituted for their benefit ; and that they have at all times an undeniable and indefeasible right to alter their form of government in such manner as they may think expedient.

3. The exercise and enjoyment of religious profession and worship, without discrimination, shall forever be free to all persons in this State, provided that the right hereby declared and established shall not be so construed as to excuse acts of licentiousness, or to justify practices inconsistent with the peace and safety of the State.

4. No preference shall be given by law to any Christian sect or mode of worship.

5. Every citizen may freely speak, write, and publish his sentiments on all subjects, being responsible for the abuse of that liberty.

6. No law shall ever be passed to curtail or restrain the liberty of speech or of the press.

7. In all prosecutions or indictments for libels, the truth may be given in evidence, and the jury shall have a right to determine the law and the facts, under the direction of the court.

8. The people shall be secure in their persons, houses, papers, and possessions, from unreasonable searches, or seizures ; and no warrant to search any place, or to seize any person or things, shall issue, without describing them as nearly as may be, nor without probable cause, supported by oath or affirmation.

9. In all criminal prosecutions, the accused shall have a right to be heard, by himself and by counsel : to demand the nature and cause of the accusation ; to be confronted by the witnesses against him ; to have compulsory process to obtain witnesses in his favor ;

and in all prosecutions by indictment or information, a speedy public trial by an impartial jury. He shall not be compelled to give evidence against himself, nor be deprived of life, liberty, or property, but by due course of law. And no person shall be holden to answer for any crime, the punishment of which may be death or imprisonment for life, unless on a presentment or an indictment of a grand jury; except in the land or naval forces, or in the militia, when in actual service, in time of war or public danger.

10. No person shall be arrested, detained, or punished, except in cases clearly warranted by law.

11. The property of no person shall be taken for public use, without just compensation therefor.

12. All courts shall be open, and every person, for an injury done him in his person, property, or reputation, shall have remedy by due course of law, and right and justice administered without sale, denial, or delay.

13. Excessive bail shall not be required, nor excessive fines imposed.

14. All prisoners shall, before conviction, be bailable by sufficient sureties, except for capital offences, where the proof is evident, or the presumption great; and the privileges of the writ of habeas corpus shall not be suspended, unless when in case of rebellion or invasion the public safety may require it; nor in any case, but by the Legislature.

15. No person shall be attainted of treason or felony by the Legislature.

16. The citizens have a right, in a peaceable manner, to assemble for their common good, and to apply to those invested with the powers of government for redress of grievances, or other proper purposes, by petition, address, or remonstrance.

17. Every citizen has a right to bear arms in defense of himself and the State.

18. The military shall, in all cases, and at all times, be in strict subordination to the civil power.

19. No soldier shall, in time of peace, be quartered in any house, without the consent of the owner; nor in time of war, but in a manner to be prescribed by law.

20. No hereditary emoluments, privileges, or honors shall ever be granted or conferred in this State.

21. The right of trial by jury shall remain inviolate.

## ARTICLE II.—*Of the Distribution of Powers.*

The powers of government shall be divided into three distinct departments, and each of them confided to a separate magistracy, to wit;—those which are legislative, to one; those which are executive, to another; and those which are judicial, to another.



ARTICLE III.—*Of the Legislative Department.*

SEC. 1. The legislative power of this State shall be vested in two distinct houses or branches; the one to be styled the Senate, the other the House of Representatives, and both together the General Assembly. The style of the laws shall be: *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened.*

2. There shall be one stated session of the General Assembly, to be holden each year, alternately at Hartford and New Haven, on the first Wednesday of May, and at such other times as the General Assembly shall judge necessary; the first session to be holden at Hartford; but the person administering the office of Governor, may, on special emergencies, convene the General Assembly at either of said places at any other time. And in case of danger from the prevalence of contagious diseases in either of said places, or other circumstances, the person administering the office of Governor, may, by proclamation, convene said Assembly at any other place in this State.

3. The House of Representatives shall consist of electors residing in towns from which they are elected. The number of representatives from each town shall be the same as at present practised and allowed. In case a new town shall hereafter be incorporated, such new town shall be entitled to one representative only: and if such new town shall be made from one or more towns, the town or towns from which the same shall be made, shall be entitled to the same number of representatives as at present allowed, unless the number shall be reduced by the consent of such town or towns.

4. The Senate shall consist of twelve members, to be chosen annually by the electors.

5. At the meetings of the electors, held in the several towns in this State, in April annually, after the election of representatives, the electors present shall be called upon to bring in their written ballots for senators. The presiding officer shall receive the votes of the electors, and count and declare them in open meeting. The presiding officer shall also make duplicate lists of the persons voted for, and of the number of votes for each, which shall be certified by the presiding officer; one of which lists shall be delivered to the town clerk, and the other, within three days after said meeting, shall be delivered, under seal, either to the Secretary or to the sheriff of the county in which said town is situated; which list shall be directed to the Secretary, with a superscription expressing the purport of the contents thereof. And each sheriff who shall receive such votes shall, within fifteen days after said meeting, deliver or cause them to be delivered, to the Secretary.

6. The Treasurer, Secretary, and Comptroller, for the time being, shall canvass the votes publicly. The twelve persons having the greatest number of votes for senators shall be declared to be elected. But, in cases where no choice is made by the electors, in consequence of an equality of votes, the House of Representatives shall

designate, by ballot, which of the candidates having such equal number of votes shall be declared to be elected. The return of votes, and the result of the canvass, shall be submitted to the House of Representatives, and also to the Senate, on the first day of the session of the General Assembly, and each house shall be the final judge of the election returns and qualifications of its own members.

7. The House of Representatives, when assembled, shall choose a Speaker, Clerk, and other officers. The Senate shall choose its clerk and other officers, except the President. A majority of each house shall constitute a quorum to do business; but a smaller number may adjourn from day to day, and compel the attendance of absent members in such manner, and under such penalties, as each house may prescribe.

8. Each house shall determine the rules of its own proceedings, punish members for disorderly conduct, and, with the consent of two-thirds, expel a member, but not a second time for the same cause; and shall have all other powers necessary for a branch of the legislature of a free and independent State.

9. Each house shall keep a journal of its proceedings, and publish the same when required by one-fifth of its members, except such parts as, in the judgment of a majority, require secrecy. The yeas and nays of the members of either house shall, at the desire of one-fifth of those present, be entered on the journals.

10. The Senators and Representatives shall, in all cases of civil process, be privileged from arrest during the session of the General Assembly, and for four days before the commencement and after the termination of any session thereof. And for any speech or debate in either house, they shall not be questioned in any other place.

11. The debates of each house shall be public, except on such occasions as in the opinion of the house may require secrecy.

#### ARTICLE IV.—*Of the Executive Department.*

SEC. 1. The supreme executive power of the State shall be vested in a Governor, who shall be chosen by the electors of the State, and shall hold his office for one year from the first Wednesday of May next succeeding his election, and until his successor be duly qualified. No person who is not an elector of this State, and who has not arrived at the age of thirty, shall be eligible.

2. At the meetings of the electors, in the respective towns, in the month of April in each year, immediately after the election of senators, the presiding officers shall call upon the electors to bring in their ballots for him whom they would elect to be Governor, with his name fairly written. When such ballots shall have been received and counted, in the presence of the electors, duplicate lists of the persons voted for, and of the number of votes given for each, shall be made and certified by the presiding officer, one of which lists shall be deposited in the office of the town clerk, within three days, and the other within ten days after the said election, shall be



transmitted to the Secretary, or to the sheriff of the county in which such election shall have been held. The sheriff receiving said votes shall deliver, or cause them to be delivered, to the Secretary, within fifteen days next after said election. The votes so returned shall be counted by the Treasurer, Secretary, and Comptroller, within the month of April: A fair list of the persons and number of votes given for each, together with the returns of the presiding officers, shall be, by the Treasurer, Secretary, and Comptroller, made and laid before the General Assembly then next to be holden, on the first day of the session thereof; and said Assembly shall, after examination of the same, declare the person whom they shall find to be legally chosen, and give him notice accordingly. If no person shall have a majority of the whole number of said votes, or if two or more shall have an equal and the greatest number of said votes, then said Assembly, on the second day of their session, by joint ballot of both houses, shall proceed, without debate, to choose a Governor from a list of the names of the two persons having the greatest number of votes, or of the names of the persons having an equal and highest number of votes so returned as aforesaid. The General Assembly shall by law prescribe the manner in which all questions concerning the election of a Governor or Lieutenant-Governor shall be determined.

3. At the annual meetings of the electors, immediately after the election of Governor, there also shall be chosen in the same manner as is herein before provided for the election of Governor, a Lieutenant-Governor, who shall continue in office for the same time, and possess the same qualifications.

4. The compensations of the Governor, Lieutenant-Governor, senators, and representatives, shall be established by law, and shall not be varied so as to take effect until after an election which shall next succeed the passage of the law establishing said compensation.

5. The Governor shall be captain-general of the militia of the State, except when called into the service of the United States.

6. He may require information, in writing, from the officers in the executive department, on any subject relating to the duties of their respective offices.

7. The Governor, in case of a disagreement between the two houses of the General Assembly respecting the time of adjournment, may adjourn them to such time as he shall think proper, not beyond the day of the next stated session.

8. He shall, from time to time, give to the General Assembly information of the state of the government, and recommend to their consideration such measures as he shall deem expedient.

9. He shall take care that the laws be faithfully executed.

10. The Governor shall have power to grant reprieves, after conviction, in all cases except those of impeachment, until the end of the next session of the General Assembly, and no longer.

11. All commissions shall be in the name and by authority of the

State of Connecticut: shall be sealed with the State seal, signed by the Governor, and attested by the Secretary.

12. Every bill which shall have passed both houses of the General Assembly, shall be presented to the Governor. If he approve, he shall sign and transmit it to the Secretary; but if not, he shall return it to the house in which it originated, with his objections, which shall be entered on the journals of the house; who shall proceed to reconsider the bill. If, after such reconsideration, that house shall again pass it, it shall be sent, with the objections, to the other house, which shall also reconsider it. If approved, it shall become a law. But, in such cases, the votes of both houses shall be determined by yeas and nays; and the names of the members voting for and against the bill shall be entered on the journals of each house respectively. If the bill shall not be returned by the Governor within three days (Sundays excepted) after it shall have been presented to him, the same shall be a law in like manner as if he had signed it; unless the General Assembly, by their adjournment, prevent its return, in which case it shall not be a law.

13. The Lieutenant-Governor shall, by virtue of his office, be President of the Senate, and have when in committee of the whole a right to debate, and, when the Senate is equally divided, to give the casting vote.

14. In case of the death, resignation, refusal to serve, or removal from office of the Governor, or of his impeachment, or absence from the State, the Lieutenant-Governor shall exercise the powers and authority appertaining to the office of Governor, until another be chosen at the next periodical election for Governor, and be duly qualified; or until the Governor impeached or absent shall be acquitted or return.

15. When the government shall be administered by the Lieutenant-Governor, or he shall be unable to attend as President of the Senate, the Senate shall elect one of their members as President pro tempore. And if, during the vacancy of the office of Governor, the Lieutenant-Governor shall die, resign, refuse to serve, to be removed from office, or if he shall be impeached, or absent from the State, the President of the Senate pro tempore shall, in like manner, administer the government until he be superseded by a Governor or Lieutenant-Governor.

16. If the Lieutenant-Governor shall be required to administer the government, and shall, while in such administration, die or resign during the recess of the General Assembly, it shall be the duty of the Secretary, for the time being, to convene the Senate for the purpose of choosing a President pro tempore.

17. A Treasurer shall annually be chosen by the electors at their meeting in April: and the votes shall be returned, counted, canvassed, and declared, in the same manner as is provided for the election of Governor and Lieutenant-Governor; but the votes for the Treasurer shall be canvassed by the Secretary and Comptroller only



He shall receive all moneys belonging to the State, and disburse the same only as he may be directed by law. He shall pay no warrant or order for the disbursement of public money, until the same has been registered in the office of the Comptroller.

18. A Secretary shall be chosen next after the Treasurer, and in the same manner; and the votes for Secretary shall be returned to, and counted, canvassed, and declared by the Treasurer and Comptroller. He shall have the safe keeping and custody of the public records and documents, and particularly of the acts, resolutions, and orders of the General Assembly, and record the same; and perform all such duties as shall be prescribed by law. He shall be the keeper of the seal of the State, which shall not be altered.

19. A Comptroller of the public accounts shall be annually appointed by the General Assembly. He shall adjust and settle all public accounts and demands, except grants and orders of the General Assembly. He shall prescribe the mode of keeping and rendering all public accounts. He shall, *ex officio*, be one of the auditors of the accounts of the Treasurer. The General Assembly may assign to him other duties in relation to his office, and to that of the Treasurer, and shall prescribe the manner in which his duties shall be performed.

20. A sheriff shall be appointed in each county, by the General Assembly, who shall hold his office for three years, removable by said Assembly, and shall become bound, with sufficient sureties, to the Treasurer of the State for the faithful discharge of the duties of his office, in such manner as shall be prescribed by law: in case the Sheriff of any county shall die or resign, the Governor may fill the vacancy occasioned thereby, until the same shall be filled by the General Assembly.

21. A statement of all receipts, payments, funds, and debts of the State, shall be published, from time to time, in such manner, and at such periods, as shall be prescribed by law.

#### ARTICLE V.—*Of the Judicial Department.*

SEC. 1. The judicial power of the State shall be vested in a Supreme Court of Errors, a Superior Court, and such inferior courts as the General Assembly shall from time to time, ordain and establish; the powers and jurisdiction of which courts shall be defined by law.

2. There shall be appointed in each county a sufficient number of justices of the peace, with such jurisdiction in civil and criminal cases, as the General Assembly may prescribe.

3. The judges of the Supreme Court of Errors, of the Superior and inferior courts, and all justices of the peace, shall be appointed by the General Assembly, in such manner as shall by law be prescribed. The judges of the Supreme Court, and of the Superior Court, shall hold their offices during good behaviour; but may be removed by impeachment: and the Governor shall also remove them on the address of two-thirds of the members of each house of the

General Assembly ; all other judges and justices of the peace shall be appointed annually. No judge or justice of the peace shall be capable of holding his office after he shall arrive at the age of seventy years.

ARTICLE VI.—*Of the Qualifications of Electors.*

SEC. 1. All persons who have been, or shall hereafter, previous to the ratification of this Constitution, be admitted freemen, according to the existing laws of this State, shall be electors.

2. Every white male citizen of the United States, who shall have gained a settlement in this State, attained the age of twenty-one years, and resided in the town in which he may offer himself to be admitted to the privilege of an elector, at least six months preceding, and have a freehold estate of the yearly value of seven dollars, in this State ; or having been enrolled in the militia, shall have performed military duty therein, for the term of one year next preceding the time he shall offer himself for admission, or being liable thereto, shall have been, by authority of law, excused therefrom ; or shall have paid a State tax within the year next preceding the time he shall present himself for such admission, and shall sustain a good moral character, shall, on his taking such oath as may be prescribed by law, be an elector.

3. The privileges of an elector shall be forfeited, by a conviction of bribery, forgery, perjury, duelling, fraudulent bankruptcy, theft, or other offence, for which an infamous punishment is inflicted.

4. Every elector shall be eligible to any office in this State, except in cases provided for in this Constitution.

5. The selectmen and town clerk of the several towns shall decide on the qualifications of electors, at such times, and in such manner, as may be prescribed by law.

6. Laws shall be made to support the privilege of free suffrage, prescribing the manner of regulating and conducting meetings of the electors, and prohibiting, under adequate penalties, all undue influence therein, from power, bribery, tumult, and other improper conduct.

7. In all elections of officers of the State, or members of the General Assembly, the votes of the electors shall be by ballot.

8 At all elections of officers of the State, or members of the General Assembly, the electors shall be privileged from arrest during their attendance upon, and going to and returning from, the same, on any civil process.

9. The meetings of the electors for the election of the several State officers, by law annually to be elected, and members of the General Assembly of this State, shall be holden on the first Monday of April in each year.

ARTICLE VII.—*Of Religion.*

SEC. 1. It being the duty of all men to worship the Supreme Being, the great Creator and Preserver of the Universe, and their



right to render that worship in the mode most consistent with the dictates of their consciences: no person shall, by law, be compelled to join or support, nor be classed with, or associated to, any congregation, church, or religious association. But every person now belonging to such congregation, church, or religious association, shall remain a member thereof, until he shall have separated himself therefrom, in the manner hereinafter provided. And each and every society or denomination of Christians in this State, shall have and enjoy the same and equal powers, rights, and privileges; and shall have power and authority to support and maintain the ministers or teachers of their respective denominations, and to build and repair houses for public worship, by a tax on the members of any such society only, to be laid by a major vote of the legal voters assembled at any society meeting, warned and held according to law, or in any other manner.

2. If any person shall choose to separate himself from the society or denomination of Christians to which he may belong, and shall leave a written notice thereof with the clerk of such society, he shall thereupon be no longer liable for any future expenses which may be incurred by said society.

#### ARTICLE VIII.—*Of Education.*

SEC. 1. The charter of Yale College, as modified by agreement with the corporation thereof, in pursuance of an act of the General Assembly, passed in May, 1792, is hereby confirmed.

2. The fund, called the *School Fund*, shall remain a perpetual fund, the interest of which shall be inviolably appropriated to the support and encouragement of the public or common schools throughout the State, and for the equal benefit of all the people thereof. The value and amount of said fund shall, as soon as practicable, be ascertained in such manner as the General Assembly may prescribe, published, and recorded in the Comptroller's office; and no law shall ever be made authorizing said fund to be diverted to any other use than the encouragement and support of public or common schools, among the several school societies, as justice and equity shall require.

#### ARTICLE IX.—*Of Impeachments.*

SEC. 1. The House of Representatives shall have the sole power of impeaching.

2. All impeachments shall be tried by the Senate. No person shall be convicted without the concurrence of two-thirds of the members present. When the Governor is impeached, the chief justice shall preside.

3. The Governor, and all other executive and judicial officers, shall be liable to impeachment; but judgment in such cases shall not extend further than to removal from office, and disqualifications to hold any office of honor, trust, or profit, under this State. The party convicted shall, nevertheless, be liable and subject to indictment, trial, and punishment, according to law.

4. Treason against the State shall consist only in levying war

against it, or adhering to its enemies, giving them aid and comfort. No person shall be convicted of treason, unless on the testimony of two witnesses to the same overt act, or on confession in open court. No conviction of treason or attainder shall work corruption of blood or forfeiture.

ARTICLE X.—*General Provisions.*

SEC. 1. Members of the General Assembly, and all officers, executive, and judicial, shall, before they enter on the duties of their respective offices, take the following oath or affirmation, to wit:

You do solemnly swear, (or affirm, as the case may be,) that you will support the Constitution of the United States, and the Constitution of the State of Connecticut, so long as you continue a citizen thereof; and that you will faithfully discharge, according to law, the duties of the office of \_\_\_\_\_ to the best of your abilities. *So help you God.*

2. Each town shall annually elect selectmen, and such officers of local police, as the laws may prescribe.

3. The rights and duties of all corporations shall remain as if this Constitution had not been adopted; with the exception of such regulations and restrictions as are contained in this Constitution. All judicial and civil officers now in office, who have been appointed by the General Assembly, and commissioned according to law, and all such officers as shall be appointed by the said Assembly, and commissioned as aforesaid, before the first Wednesday of May next, shall continue to hold their offices until the first day of June next, unless they shall, before that time, resign, or be removed from office according to law. The Treasurer and Secretary shall continue in office until a Treasurer and Secretary shall be appointed under this Constitution. All military officers shall continue to hold and exercise their respective offices, until they shall resign, or be removed according to law. All laws not contrary to, or inconsistent with, the provisions of this Constitution, shall remain in force until they shall expire by their own limitation, or shall be altered or repealed by the General Assembly, in pursuance of this Constitution. The validity of all bonds, debts, contracts, as well of individuals as of bodies corporate, or the State, of all suits, actions, or rights of action, both in law and equity, shall continue as if no change had taken place. The Governor, Lieutenant-Governor, and General Assembly, which is to be formed in October next, shall have, and possess, all the powers and authorities not repugnant to, or inconsistent with, this Constitution, which they now have and possess until the first Wednesday of May next.

4. No judge of the Superior Court, or of the Supreme Court of Errors: or member of Congress; no person holding any office under the authority of the United States; no person holding the office of Treasurer, Secretary, or Comptroller; no sheriff or sheriff's deputy; shall be a member of the General Assembly.



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ARTICLE XI.—*Of Amendments of the Constitution.*

Whenever a majority of the House of Representatives shall deem it necessary to alter or amend this Constitution, they may propose such alterations and amendments; which proposed amendments shall be continued to the next General Assembly, and be published with the laws which may have been passed at the same session; and if two-thirds of each house, at the next session of said Assembly, shall approve the amendments proposed, by yeas and nays, said amendments shall, by the Secretary, be transmitted to the town clerk in each town in this State; whose duty it shall be to present the same to the inhabitants thereof, for their consideration, at a town meeting, legally warned and held for that purpose; and if it shall appear, in a manner to be provided by law, that a majority of the electors present at such meetings shall have approved such amendments, the same shall be valid, to all intents and purposes, as a part of this Constitution.

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AMENDMENTS TO THE CONSTITUTION.

ARTICLE I.—*Adopted November, 1828.*

From and after the first Wednesday of May, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and thirty, the Senate of this State shall consist of not less than eighteen, nor more than twenty-four members, and be chosen by districts.

ARTICLE II.—*Adopted November, 1828.*

The General Assembly which shall be holden on the first Wednesday of May, in the year one thousand eight hundred and twenty-nine, shall divide the State into districts for the choice of senators, and shall determine what number shall be elected in each, which districts shall not be less than eight, nor more than twenty-four in number, and shall always be composed of contiguous territory, and in forming them no town shall be divided; nor shall the whole or part of one county be joined to the whole or part of another county, to form a district; regard being had to the population in said apportionment, and in forming said districts in such manner, that no county shall have less than two senators. The districts, when established, shall continue the same until the session of the General Assembly next after the completion of the next census of the United States; which said Assembly shall have power to alter the same, if found necessary to preserve a proper equality between said districts in respect to the number of inhabitants therein, according to the principles above recited; after which said districts shall not be altered, nor the number of senators altered, except at any session of the General Assembly next after the completion of a census of the United States, and then only according to the principles above prescribed.

ARTICLE III.—*Adopted November, 1828.*

At the meeting of the electors on the first Monday of April, in the year one thousand eight hundred and thirty, and annually thereafter, immediately after the choice of representatives, the electors qualified by law to vote in the choice of such representatives, shall be called upon, by the presiding officer in such meeting, in the several towns within their districts respectively, to bring in their ballots for such person or number of persons to be senator or senators for such districts in the next General Assembly, as shall by law be allowed to such districts respectively; which person or persons, at the time of holding such meetings, shall belong to and reside in the respective districts in which they shall be so balloted for as aforesaid. And each elector present at such meeting, qualified as aforesaid, may thereupon bring in his ballot or suffrage for such person or persons as he shall choose to be senators for such district, not exceeding the number by law allowed to the same, with the name or names of such person or persons fairly *written*\* on one piece of paper. And the

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\* Amendment, 1830.

votes so given in shall be received, counted, canvassed and declared, in the same manner now provided by the Constitution for the choice of senators. The person or persons (not exceeding the number by law allowed to the districts in which such votes shall be given in) having the highest number of votes, shall be declared to be duly elected for such districts. But in the event of an equality of votes between two or more of the persons so voted for, the House of Representatives shall, in the manner provided for by the Constitution, designate which of such person or persons shall be declared to be duly elected.

ARTICLE IV.—*Adopted November, 1831.*

There shall annually be chosen and appointed a Lieutenant-Governor, a Treasurer, and Secretary, in the same manner as is provided in the second section of the fourth article of the Constitution of this State for the choice and appointment of a Governor.

ARTICLE V.—*Adopted November, 1836.*

A Comptroller of public accounts shall be annually chosen by the electors, in their meeting in April, and in the same manner as the Treasurer and Secretary are chosen; and the votes for Comptroller shall be returned to, and counted, canvassed, and declared by the Treasurer and Secretary.

ARTICLE VI.—*Adopted November, 1836.*

The electors in the respective towns, on the first Monday of April in each year, may vote for Governor, Lieutenant-Governor, Treasurer, Secretary, Senators and Representatives in the General Assembly, successively, or for any number of said officers at the same time. And the General Assembly shall have power to enact laws, regulating and prescribing the order and manner of voting for said officers; and also providing for the election of representatives at some time subsequent to the first Monday of April, in all cases when it shall so happen that the electors in any town shall fail, on that day, to elect the representative or representatives to which such town shall be by law entitled.

Provided, that in all elections of officers of the State, or members of the General Assembly, the votes of the electors shall be by ballot, either written or printed.

ARTICLE VII.—*Adopted October, 1838.*

A sheriff shall be appointed in each county by the electors therein, in such manner as shall be prescribed by law, who shall hold his office for three years, removable by the General Assembly, and shall become bound with sufficient sureties to the Treasurer of the State, for the faithful discharge of the duties of his office.

ARTICLE VIII.—*Adopted October, 1845.*

Every white male citizen of the United States who shall have attained the age of twenty-one years, who shall have resided in this State for a term of one year next preceeding, and in the town in which he may offer himself to be admitted to the privileges of an elector, at least six months next preceeding the time he may so offer himself, and shall sustain a good moral character, shall, on his taking such oath as may be prescribed by law, be an elector.

ARTICLE IX.—*Adopted October, 1850.*

The Judges of Probate shall be appointed by the electors residing in the several probate districts, and qualified to vote for representatives therein, in such manner as shall be prescribed by law.

ARTICLE X.—*Adopted October, 1850.*

The Justices of the Peace for the several towns in this State, shall be appointed by the electors in such towns; and the time and manner of their election, the number for each town, and the period for which they shall hold their offices, shall be prescribed by law.

ARTICLE XI.—*Adopted October, 1855.*

Every person shall be able to read any article of the Constitution, or any section of the Statutes of this State, before being admitted as an elector.

ARTICLE XII.—*Adopted, 1856.*

The Judges of the Supreme Court of Errors, and of the Superior Court appointed in the year 1855, and thereafter, shall hold their offices for the term of eight years, but may be removed by impeachment; and the Governor shall also remove them on the address of two-thirds of each house of the General Assembly. No Judge of the Supreme Court of Errors, or of the Superior Court shall be capable of holding office after he shall arrive at the age of seventy years.



## NEW YORK.



THE first settlement of this State was made by the Dutch, in 1614, on Manhattan Island. They established a colonial government in 1629, under the name of New Netherlands. In 1664, Charles II. granted to his brother, the Duke of York, afterwards James II., a patent of a tract of country, comprising the present States of New York and New Jersey. The same year Col. Nichols, with a large force, took the country by conquest, for the Duke of York, and gave it the name of "New York." In 1673, the territory was recaptured by the Dutch; but after a few months was restored by a treaty, and the Duke of York took out a new patent. The first legislative body of this province assembled in Oct. 1683. In 1693 Episcopacy was made the established religion of this province.

New York bore a very important part both in the French and Revolutionary wars. As it is the most populous State in the union, and has the largest legislation in Congress, it has received the appellation of the Empire State. The first Constitution was adopted in 1777, the second in 1822. (See Appendix.) The present one was adopted Nov. 3d, 1846.

Area 46,000 sq. m. Population, 1850, 3,090,022; 1855, 3,446,212.

The city of New York is the largest in the United States. Its population in 1850 was 515,394, which, with Brooklyn and Williamsburg (places contiguous), make a population of more than 640,000. The city and county have the same limits, embracing the island of Manhattan. It is about 14 miles long, and its average width  $1\frac{1}{2}$  miles. The British had possession of this city during most of the Revolution. They evacuated it Nov. 25, 1783, when Gen. Washington with his troops marched in. Here the first Congress assembled in 1789, and here was Gen. Washington inaugurated as the first President of the United States of America, April 30, 1789. The house where the first Congress assembled occupied the place where the Custom House now stands.

The chair in which Washington was inaugurated, and those occupied by the members of the first Congress, may now be seen in the Common Council Room of this City.

## CONSTITUTION.

*We the People of the State of New York, grateful to Almighty God for our freedom: in order to secure its blessings, do establish this Constitution.*

## ARTICLE I.

Sec. 1. No member of this State shall be disfranchised, or deprived of any of the rights or privileges secured to any citizen thereof, unless by the law of the land, or the judgment of his peers.

2. The trial by jury, in all cases in which it has been heretofore used, shall remain inviolate forever. But a jury trial may be waived by the parties in all civil cases in the manner to be prescribed by law.

3. The free exercise and enjoyment of religious profession and worship, without discrimination or preference, shall forever be allowed in this State to all mankind; and no person shall be rendered incompetent to be a witness on account of his opinions on matters of religious belief; but the liberty of conscience hereby secured shall not be so construed as to excuse acts of licentiousness or justify practices inconsistent with the peace or safety of this State.

4. The privilege of the writ of *habeas corpus* shall not be suspended, unless when, in cases of rebellion or invasion, the public safety may require its suspension.

5. Excessive bail shall not be required, nor excessive fines imposed, nor shall cruel and unusual punishment be inflicted, nor shall witnesses be unreasonably detained.

6. No person shall be held to answer for a capital or otherwise infamous crime, (except in cases of impeachment, and in cases of militia, when in actual service; and the land and naval forces in time of war, or which this State may keep with the consent of Congress in time of peace; and in cases of petit larceny, under the regulation of the Legislature,) unless on presentment or indictment of a grand jury; and in any trial in any court whatever, the party accused shall be allowed to appear and defend in person and with counsel, as in civil actions. No person shall be subject to be twice put in jeopardy for the same offence; nor shall he be compelled in any criminal case, to be a witness against himself; nor be deprived of life, liberty or property, without due process of law: nor shall private property be taken for public use without just compensation.

7. When private property shall be taken for any public use, the compensation to be made therefor, when such compensation is not made by the State, shall be ascertained by a jury, or by not less than three commissioners appointed by a Court of Record, as shall be prescribed by law. Private roads may be opened in the manner to be prescribed by law; but in every case the necessity of the road, and the amount of all damages to be sustained by the opening there-



of, shall be first determined by a jury of freeholders, and such amount, together with the expenses of the proceeding, shall be paid by the person to be benefited.

8. Every citizen may freely speak, write and publish his sentiments on all subjects, being responsible for the abuse of that right; and no law shall be passed to restrain or abridge the liberty of speech, or of the press. In all criminal prosecutions or indictments for libels, the truth may be given in evidence to the jury; and if it shall appear to the jury, that the matter charged as libelous is true, and was published with good motives, and for justifiable ends, the party shall be acquitted; and the jury shall have a right to determine the law and the fact.

9. The assent of two-thirds of the members elected to each branch of the Legislature, shall be requisite to every bill appropriating the public moneys or property for local or private purposes.

10. No law shall be passed, abridging the right of the people peaceably to assemble and to petition the government, or any department thereof, nor shall any divorce be granted, otherwise than by due judicial proceedings, nor shall any lottery hereafter be authorized, or any sale of lottery tickets allowed within this State.

11. The people of this State, in their right of sovereignty, are deemed to possess the original and ultimate property in and to all lands within the jurisdiction of the State; and all lands the title to which shall fail from a defect of heirs, shall revert, or escheat to the people.

12. All feudal tenures of every description, with all their incidents, are declared to be abolished, saving however, all rents and services certain which at any time heretofore have been lawfully created or reserved.

13. All lands within this State are declared to be allodial, so that, subject only to the liability to escheat, the entire and absolute property is vested in the owners according to the nature of their respective estates.

14. No lease or grant of agricultural land, for a longer period than twelve years, hereafter made, in which shall be reserved any rent or service of any kind, shall be valid.

15. All fines, quarter sales, or other like restraints upon alienation reserved in any grant of land, hereafter to be made, shall be void.

16. No purchase or contract for the sale of lands in this State, made since the fourteenth day of October one thousand seven hundred and seventy-five; or which may hereafter be made, of, or with the Indians, shall be valid, unless made under the authority, and with the consent of the Legislature.

17. Such parts of the common law, and of the acts of the Legislature of the colony of New-York, as together did form the law of the said colony, on the nineteenth day of April one thousand seven hundred and seventy-five, and the resolutions of the Congress of

the said colony, and of the Convention of the State of New-York, in force on the twentieth day of April, one thousand seven hundred and seventy-seven, which have not since expired, or been repealed or altered; and such acts of the Legislature of this State as are now in force, shall be and continue the law of this State, subject to such alterations as the Legislature shall make concerning the same. But all such parts of the common law, and such of the said acts, or parts thereof, as are repugnant to this Constitution, are hereby abrogated; and the Legislature, at its first session after the adoption of this Constitution, shall appoint three commissioners, whose duty it shall be to reduce into a written and systematic code the whole body of the law of this State, or so much and such parts thereof as to the said commissioners shall seem practicable and expedient. And the said commissioners shall specify such alterations and amendments therein as they shall deem proper, and they shall at all times make reports of their proceedings to the Legislature, when called upon to do so; and the Legislature shall pass laws regulating the tenure of office, the filling of vacancies therein, and the compensation of the said commissioners; and shall also provide for the publication of the said code, prior to its being presented to the Legislature for adoption.

18. All grants of land within this State, made by the King of Great Britain, or persons acting under his authority, after the fourteenth day of October, one thousand seven hundred and seventy-five, shall be null and void; but nothing contained in this Constitution shall affect any grants of land within this State, made by the authority of the said King or his predecessors, or shall annul any charters to bodies politic and corporate, by him or them made, before that day; or shall affect any such grants or charters since made by this State, or by persons acting under its authority, or shall impair the obligation of any debts contracted by this State, or individuals, or bodies corporate, or any other rights of property, or any suits, actions, rights of action, or other proceedings in courts of justice.

## ARTICLE II.

SEC. 1. Every male citizen of the age of twenty-one years, who shall have been a citizen for ten days, and an inhabitant of this State one year next preceding any election, and for the last four months a resident of the county where he may offer his vote, shall be entitled to vote at such election in the election district of which he shall at the time be a resident, and not elsewhere, for all officers that now are or hereafter may be elective by the people; but such citizen shall have been for thirty days next preceding the election, a resident of the district from which the officer is to be chosen for whom he offers his vote. But no man of color, unless he shall have been for three years a citizen of this State, and for one year next preceding any election shall have been seized and possessed of a freehold estate of the value of two hundred and fifty dollars, over and above all debts



and incumbrances charged thereon, and shall have been actually rated, and paid a tax thereon, shall be entitled to vote at such election. And no person of color shall be subject to direct taxation unless he shall be seized and possessed of such real estate as aforesaid.

2. Laws may be passed excluding from the right of suffrage all persons who have been or may be convicted of bribery, or larceny, or of any infamous crime; and for depriving every person who shall make, or become directly or indirectly interested in any bet or wager depending upon the result of any election, from the right to vote at such election.

3. For the purpose of voting, no person shall be deemed to have gained or lost a residence, by reason of his presence or absence, while employed in the service of the United States; nor while engaged in the navigation of the waters of this State, or of the United States, or of the high seas; nor while a student of any seminary of learning; nor while kept at any alms-house, or other asylum, at public expense; nor while confined in any public prison.

4. Laws shall be made for ascertaining by proper proofs the citizens who shall be entitled to the right of suffrage hereby established.

5. All elections by the citizens shall be by ballot, except for such town officers as may by law be directed to be otherwise chosen.

### ARTICLE III.

SEC. 1. The legislative power of this State shall be vested in a Senate and Assembly.

2. The Senate shall consist of thirty-two members, and the senators shall be chosen for two years. The Assembly shall consist of one hundred and twenty-eight members, who shall be annually elected.

3. The State shall be divided into thirty-two districts, to be called Senate districts, each of which shall choose one Senator. The districts shall be numbered from one to thirty-two inclusive.

District number one (1), shall consist of the counties of Suffolk, Richmond and Queens.

District number two (2), shall consist of the county of Kings.

Districts number three (3), number four (4), number five (5), and number six (6), shall consist of the city and county of New-York; and the board of supervisors of said city and county shall, on or before the first day of May, one thousand eight hundred and forty-seven, divide the said city and county into the number of Senate Districts, to which it is entitled, as near as may be of an equal number of inhabitants, excluding aliens and persons of color not taxed, and consisting of convenient and contiguous territory; and no Assembly District shall be divided in the formation of a Senate District. The board of supervisors, when they shall have completed such division, shall cause certificates thereof, stating the number and boundaries of each district and the population thereof, to be

filed in the office of the Secretary of State, and of the clerk of the said city and county.

District number seven (7), shall consist of the counties of Westchester, Putnam and Rockland.

District number eight (8), shall consist of the counties of Dutchess and Columbia.

District number nine (9), shall consist of the counties of Orange and Sullivan.

District number ten (10), shall consist of the counties of Ulster and Greene.

District number eleven (11), shall consist of the counties of Albany and Schenectady.

District number twelve (12), shall consist of the county of Rensselaer.

District number thirteen (13), shall consist of the counties of Washington and Saratoga.

District number fourteen (14), shall consist of the counties of Warren, Essex, and Clinton.

District number fifteen (15), shall consist of the counties of St Lawrence and Franklin.

District number sixteen (16), shall consist of the counties of Herkimer, Hamilton, Fulton and Montgomery.

District number seventeen (17), shall consist of the counties of Schoharie and Delaware.

District number eighteen (18), shall consist of the counties of Otsego and Chenango.

District number nineteen (19), shall consist of the county of Oneida.

District number twenty (20), shall consist of the counties of Madison and Oswego.

District number twenty-one (21), shall consist of the counties of Jefferson and Lewis.

District number twenty-two (22), shall consist of the county of Onondaga.

District number twenty-three (23), shall consist of the counties of Cortland, Broome and Tioga.

District number twenty-four (24), shall consist of the counties of Cayuga and Wayne.

District number twenty-five (25), shall consist of the counties of Tompkins, Seneca and Yates.

District number twenty-six (26), shall consist of the counties of Steuben and Chemung.

District number twenty-seven (27), shall consist of the county of Munroe.

District number twenty-eight (28), shall consist of the counties of Orleans, Genesee and Niagara.

District number twenty-nine (29), shall consist of the counties of Ontario and Livingston.



District number thirty (30), shall consist of the counties of Alleghany and Wyoming.

District number thirty-one (31), shall consist of the county of Erie.

District number thirty-two (32), shall consist of the counties of Chautauque and Cattaraugus.

4. An enumeration of the inhabitants of the State shall be taken, under the direction of the Legislature, in the year one thousand eight hundred and fifty-five, and at the end of every ten years thereafter; and the said districts shall be so altered by the Legislature, at the first session after the return of every enumeration, that each Senate district shall contain, as nearly as may be, an equal number of inhabitants, excluding aliens, and persons of color not taxed; and shall remain unaltered until the return of another enumeration, and shall at all times consist of contiguous territory; and no county shall be divided in the formation of a Senate district, except such county shall be equitably entitled to two or more Senators.

5. The members of Assembly shall be apportioned among the several counties of this State, by the Legislature, as nearly as may be, according to the number of their respective inhabitants, excluding aliens, and persons of color not taxed, and shall be chosen by single districts.

The several boards of supervisors in such counties of this State as are now entitled to more than one member of Assembly, shall assemble on the first Tuesday of January next, and divide their respective counties into Assembly districts equal to the number of members of Assembly to which such counties are now severally entitled by law, and shall cause to be filed in the offices of the Secretary of State and the clerks of their respective counties, a description of such Assembly districts, specifying the number of each district and the population thereof, according to the last preceding State enumeration, as near as can be ascertained. Each Assembly district shall contain, as nearly as may be, an equal number of inhabitants, excluding aliens, and persons of color not taxed, and shall consist of convenient and contiguous territory; but no town shall be divided in the formation of Assembly districts.

The Legislature, at its first session after the return of every enumeration, shall re-apportion the members of Assembly among the several counties of this State, in manner aforesaid, and the boards of supervisors in such counties as may be entitled, under such re-apportionment, to more than one member, shall assemble at such time as the Legislature making such re-apportionment shall prescribe, and divide such counties into Assembly districts, in the manner herein directed; and the apportionment and districts so to be made, shall remain unaltered until another enumeration shall be taken under the provisions of the preceding section.

Every county heretofore established and separately organized, except the county of Hamilton, shall always be entitled to one

member of the Assembly, and no new county shall be hereafter erected, unless its population shall entitle it to a member.

The county of Hamilton shall elect with the county of Fulton, until the population of the county of Hamilton shall, according to the ratio, be entitled to a member.

6. The members of the Legislature shall receive for their services a sum not exceeding three dollars a day, from the commencement of the session; but such pay shall not exceed in the aggregate three hundred dollars for per diem allowance, except in proceedings for impeachment. The limitation as to the aggregate compensation shall not take effect until the year one thousand eight hundred and forty-eight. When convened in extra session by the Governor, they shall receive three dollars per day. They shall also receive the sum of one dollar for every ten miles they shall travel, in going to and returning from their place of meeting, on the most usual route. The Speaker of the Assembly shall, in virtue of his office, receive an additional compensation equal to one-third of his per diem allowance as a member.

7. No member of the Legislature shall receive any civil appointment within this State, or to the Senate of the United States, from the Governor, the Governor and Senate, or from the Legislature, during the term for which he shall have been elected; and all such appointments, and all votes given for any such member, for any such office or appointment, shall be void.

8. No person being a member of Congress, or holding any judicial or military office under the United States, shall hold a seat in the Legislature. And if any person shall, after his election as a member of the Legislature, be elected to Congress, or appointed to any office, civil or military, under the Government of the United States, his acceptance thereof shall vacate his seat.

9. The elections of Senators and members of Assembly, pursuant to the provisions of this Constitution, shall be held on the Tuesday succeeding the first Monday of November, unless otherwise directed by the Legislature.

10. A majority of each house shall constitute a quorum to do business. Each house shall determine the rules of its own proceedings, and be the judge of the elections, returns and qualifications of its own members; shall choose its own officers; and the Senate shall choose a temporary president, when the Lieutenant-Governor shall not attend as president, or shall act as Governor.

11. Each house shall keep a journal of its proceedings, and publish the same, except such parts as may require secrecy. The doors of each house shall be kept open, except when the public welfare shall require secrecy. Neither house shall, without the consent of the other, adjourn for more than two days.

12. For any speech or debate in either house of the Legislature, the members shall not be questioned in any other place.



13. Any bill may originate in either house of the Legislature, and all bills passed by one house may be amended by the other.

14. The enacting clause of all bills shall be, "The people of the State of New York, represented in Senate and Assembly, do enact as follows:" and no law shall be enacted except by bill.

15. No bill shall be passed unless by the assent of a majority of all the members elected to each branch of the Legislature, and the question upon the final passage shall be taken immediately upon its last reading, and the yeas and nays entered on the journal.

16. No private or local bill, which may be passed by the Legislature, shall embrace more than one subject, and that shall be expressed in the title.

17. The Legislature may confer upon the boards of supervisors of the several counties of the State, such further powers of local legislation and administration, as they shall from time to time prescribe.

#### ARTICLE IV.

SEC. 1. The executive power shall be vested in a Governor, who shall hold his office for two years: a Lieutenant-Governor shall be chosen at the same time, and for the same term.

2. No person, except a citizen of the United States, shall be eligible to the office of Governor, nor shall any person be eligible to that office, who shall not have attained the age of thirty years, and who shall not have been five years next preceding his election, a resident within this State.

3. The Governor and Lieutenant-Governor shall be elected at the times and places of choosing members of the Assembly. The persons respectively having the highest number of votes for Governor and Lieutenant-Governor, shall be elected; but in case two or more shall have an equal and the highest number of votes for Governor, or for Lieutenant-Governor, the two houses of the Legislature, at its next annual session, shall, forthwith, by joint ballot, choose one of the said persons so having an equal and the highest number of votes for Governor, or Lieutenant-Governor.

4. The Governor shall be commander-in-chief of the military and naval forces of the State. He shall have power to convene the Legislature (or the Senate only) on extraordinary occasions. He shall communicate by message to the Legislature, at every session, the condition of the State, and recommend such matters to them as he shall judge expedient. He shall transact all necessary business with the officers of Government, civil and military. He shall expedite all such measures as may be resolved upon by the Legislature, and shall take care that the laws are faithfully executed. He shall, at stated times, receive for his services a compensation to be established by law, which shall neither be increased nor diminished after his election and during his continuance in office.

5. The Governor shall have the power to grant reprieves, commu-

tations and pardons after conviction, for all offences except treason and cases of impeachment, upon such conditions, and with such restrictions and limitations, as he may think proper, subject to such regulation as may be provided by law relative to the manner of applying for pardons. Upon conviction for treason, he shall have power to suspend the execution of the sentence, until the case shall be reported to the Legislature at its next meeting, when the Legislature shall either pardon, or commute the sentence, direct the execution of the sentence, or grant a further reprieve. He shall annually communicate to the Legislature each case of reprieve, commutation or pardon granted; stating the name of the convict, the crime of which he was convicted, the sentence and its date, and the date of the commutation, pardon or reprieve.

6. In case of the impeachment of the Governor, or his removal from office, death, inability to discharge the powers and duties of the said office, resignation or absence from the State, the powers and duties of the office shall devolve upon the Lieutenant-Governor for the residue of the term, or until the disability shall cease. But when the Governor shall, with the consent of the Legislature, be out of the State in time of war, at the head of a military force thereof, he shall continue commander-in-chief of all the military force of the State.

7. The Lieutenant-Governor shall possess the same qualifications of eligibility for office as the Governor. He shall be President of the Senate, but shall only have a casting vote therein. If during a vacancy of the office of Governor, the Lieutenant-Governor shall be impeached, displaced, resign, die, or become incapable of performing the duties of his office, or be absent from the State, the President of the Senate shall act as Governor, until the vacancy be filled, or the disability shall cease.

8. The Lieutenant-Governor shall, while acting as such, receive a compensation which shall be fixed by law, and which shall not be increased or diminished during his continuance in office.

9. Every bill which shall have passed the Senate and Assembly, shall, before it becomes a law, be presented to the Governor: if he approve, he shall sign it; but if not, he shall return it with his objections to that house in which it shall have originated, who shall enter the objections at large on their journal, and proceed to reconsider it. If after such reconsideration, two-thirds of the members present shall agree to pass the bill, it shall be sent, together with the objections, to the other house, by which it shall likewise be reconsidered; and if approved by two-thirds of all the members present, it shall become a law, notwithstanding the objections of the Governor. But in all such cases, the votes of both houses shall be determined by yeas and nays, and the names of the members voting for and against the bill, shall be entered on the journal of each house respectively. If any bill shall not be returned by the Governor within ten days (Sundays excepted) after it shall have been presented to him, the same shall be a law, in like manner as if he had signed it, unless



the Legislature shall, by their adjournment, prevent its return ; in which case it shall not be a law.

## ARTICLE V.

SEC. 1. The Secretary of State, Comptroller, Treasurer and Attorney-General shall be chosen at a general election, and shall hold their offices for two years. Each of the officers in this article named (except the Speaker of the Assembly), shall at stated times, during his continuance in office, receive for his services, a compensation, which shall not be increased or diminished during the term for which he shall have been elected ; nor shall he receive, to his use, any fees or perquisites of office, or other compensation.

2. A State Engineer and Surveyor shall be chosen at a general election, and shall hold his office two years, but no person shall be elected to said office who is not a practical engineer.

3. Three canal commissioners shall be chosen at the general election, which shall be held next after the adoption of this Constitution ; one of whom shall hold his office for one year, one for two years, and one for three years. The commissioners of the canal fund shall meet at the Capital on the first Monday of January, next after such election, and determine by lot which of said commissioners shall hold his office for one year, which for two, and which for three years ; and there shall be elected annually, thereafter, one canal commissioner, who shall hold his office for three years.

4. Three inspectors of State Prisons shall be elected at the general election which shall be held next after the adoption of this Constitution, one of whom shall hold his office for one year, one for two years, and one for three years. The Governor, Secretary of State, and Comptroller, shall meet at the Capital on the first Monday of January next succeeding such election, and determine by lot which of said inspectors shall hold his office for one year, which for two, and which for three years ; and there shall be elected annually thereafter one inspector of State Prisons, who shall hold his office for three years ; said inspectors shall have the charge and superintendence of the State Prisons, and shall appoint all the officers therein. All vacancies in the office of such inspector shall be filled by the Governor, till the next election.

5. The Lieutenant-Governor, Speaker of the Assembly, Secretary of State, Comptroller, Treasurer, Attorney-General, and State Engineer and Surveyor, shall be the commissioners of the land-office.

The Lieutenant-Governor, Secretary of State, Comptroller, Treasurer, and Attorney-General, shall be the commissioners of the canal fund.

The canal board shall consist of the commissioners of the canal fund, the State Engineer and Surveyor, and the canal commissioners.

6. The powers and duties of the respective boards, and of the several officers in this article mentioned, shall be such as now are or hereafter may be prescribed by law.

7. The Treasurer may be suspended from office by the Governor, during the recess of the Legislature, and until thirty days after the commencement of the next session of the Legislature, whenever it shall appear to him that such Treasurer has, in any particular, violated his duty. The Governor shall appoint a competent person to discharge the duties of the office, during such suspension of the Treasurer.

8. All offices for the weighing, gauging, measuring, culling or inspecting any merchandize, produce, manufacture or commodity, whatever, are hereby abolished, and no such office shall hereafter be created by law; but nothing in this section contained, shall abrogate any office created for the purpose of protecting the public health, or the interests of the State in its property, revenue, tolls, or purchases, or of supplying the people with correct standards of weights and measures, or shall prevent the creation of any office for such purposes hereafter.

## ARTICLE VI.

SEC. 1. The Assembly shall have the power of impeachment, by the vote of a majority of all the members elected. The court for the trial of impeachments, shall be composed of the President of the Senate, the senators, or a major part of them, and the judges of the Court of Appeals, or the major part of them. On the trial of an impeachment against the Governor, the Lieutenant-Governor shall act as a member of the court. No judicial officer shall exercise his office after he shall have been impeached, until he shall have been acquitted. Before the trial of an impeachment, the members of the court shall take an oath or affirmation, truly and impartially to try the impeachment, according to evidence; and no person shall be convicted, without the concurrence of two-thirds of the members present. Judgment in cases of impeachment shall not extend further than to removal from office, or removal from office and disqualification to hold and enjoy any office of honor, trust or profit under this State; but the party impeached shall be liable to indictment and punishment according to law.

2. There shall be a Court of Appeals, composed of eight judges, of whom four shall be elected by the electors of the State for eight years, and four selected from the class of justices of the Supreme Court having the shortest time to serve. Provision shall be made by law, for designating one of the number elected, as chief judge, and for selecting such justices of the Supreme Court, from time to time, and for so classifying those elected, that one shall be elected every second year.

3. There shall be a Supreme Court having general jurisdiction in law and equity.

4. The State shall be divided into eight judicial districts, of which the city of New-York shall be one; the others to be bounded by county lines, and to be compact and equal in population as nearly as



may be. There shall be four justices of the Supreme Court in each district, and as many more in the district composed of the city of New-York, as may from time to time be authorized by law, but not to exceed in the whole such number in proportion to its population, as shall be in conformity with the number of such judges in the residue of the State in proportion to its population. They shall be classified so that one of the justices of each district shall go out of office at the end of every two years. After the expiration of their terms under such classification, the term of their office shall be eight years.

5. The Legislature shall have the same powers to alter and regulate the jurisdiction and proceedings in law and equity, as they have heretofore possessed.

6. Provision may be made by law for designating from time to time, one or more of the said justices, who is not a judge of the Court of Appeals, to preside at the general terms of the said court, to be held in the several districts. Any three or more of the said justices, of whom one of the said justices so designated shall always be one, may hold such general terms. And any one or more of the justices may hold special terms and circuit courts, and any one of them may preside in courts of oyer and terminer in any county.

7. The judges of the Court of Appeals and justices of the Supreme Court shall severally receive at stated times for their services, a compensation to be established by law, which shall not be increased or diminished during their continuance in office.

8. They shall not hold any other office of public trust. All votes for either of them, for any elective office (except that of justice of the Supreme Court, or judge of the Court of Appeals,) given by the Legislature or the people, shall be void. They shall not exercise any power of appointment to public office. Any male citizen of the age of twenty-one years, of good moral character, and who possesses the requisite qualifications of learning and ability, shall be entitled to admission to practice in all the courts of this State.

9. The classification of the justices of the Supreme Court; the times and place of holding the terms of the Court of Appeals, and of the general and special terms of the Supreme Court within the several districts, and the circuit courts and courts of oyer and terminer within the several counties, shall be provided for by law.

10. The testimony in equity cases shall be taken in like manner as in cases at law.

11. Justices of the Supreme Court and judges of the Court of Appeals, may be removed by concurrent resolutions of both houses of the Legislature, if two-thirds of all the members elected to the Assembly and a majority of all the members elected to the Senate, concur therein. All judicial officers, except those mentioned in this section, and except justices of the peace, and judges and justices of inferior courts not of record, may be removed by the Senate, on the

recommendation of the Governor ; but no removal shall be made by virtue of this section, unless the cause thereof be entered on the journals, nor unless the party complained of, shall have been served with a copy of the complaint against him, and shall have had an opportunity of being heard in his defense. On the question of removal, the ayes and noes shall be entered on the journals.

12. The judges of the Court of Appeals shall be elected by the electors of the State, and the justices of the Supreme Court by the electors of the several judicial districts, at such times as may be prescribed by law.

13. In case the office of any judge of the Court of Appeals, or justice of the Supreme Court, shall become vacant before the expiration of the regular term for which he was elected, the vacancy may be filled by appointment by the Governor, until it shall be supplied at the next general election of judges, when it shall be filled by election for the residue of the unexpired term.

14. There shall be elected in each of the counties of this State, except the city and county of New-York, one county judge, who shall hold his office for four years. He shall hold the county court, and perform the duties of the office of surrogate. The county court shall have such jurisdiction in cases arising in justices courts, and in special cases, as the Legislature may prescribe ; but shall have no original civil jurisdiction, except in such special cases.

The county judge, with two justices of the peace to be designated according to law, may hold courts of sessions, with such criminal jurisdiction as the Legislature shall prescribe, and perform such other duties as may be required by law.

The county judge shall receive an annual salary, to be fixed by the board of supervisors, which shall be neither increased nor diminished during his continuance in office. The justices of the peace, for services in courts of sessions, shall be paid a per diem allowance out of the county treasury.

In counties having a population exceeding forty thousand, the Legislature may provide for the election of a separate officer to perform the duties of the office of surrogate.

The Legislature may confer equity jurisdiction in special cases upon the county judge.

Inferior local courts, of civil and criminal jurisdiction, may be established by the Legislature in cities ; and such courts, except for the cities of New-York and Buffalo, shall have an uniform organization and jurisdiction in such cities.

15. The Legislature may, on application of the board of supervisors, provide for the election of local officers, not to exceed two in any county, to discharge the duties of county judge and of surrogate, in cases of their inability or of a vacancy, and to exercise such other powers in special cases as may be provided by law.

16. The Legislature may reorganize the judicial districts at the first session after the return of every enumeration under this Con-



stitution in the manner provided for in the fourth section of this article and at no other time; and they may, at such session, increase or diminish the number of districts, but such increase or diminution shall not be more than one district at any one time. Each district shall have four justices of the Supreme Court; but no diminution of the districts shall have the effect to remove a judge from office.

17. The electors of the several towns, shall, at their annual town meeting, and in such manner as the Legislature may direct, elect justices of the peace, whose term of office shall be four years. In case of an election to fill a vacancy occurring before the expiration of a full term, they shall hold for the residue of the unexpired term. Their number and classification may be regulated by law. Justices of the peace and judges or justices of inferior courts not of record, and their clerks, may be removed after due notice and an opportunity of being heard in their defense by such county, city or State courts as may be prescribed by law, for causes to be assigned in the order of removal.

18. All judicial officers of cities and villages, and all such judicial officers as may be created therein by law, shall be elected at such times and in such manner as the Legislature may direct.

19. Clerks of the several counties of this State shall be clerks of the Supreme Court, with such powers and duties as shall be prescribed by law. A clerk for the Court of Appeals, to be ex-officio clerk of the Supreme Court, and to keep his office at the seat of government, shall be chosen by the electors of the State; he shall hold his office for three years, and his compensation shall be fixed by law and paid out of the public treasury.

20. No judicial officer, except justices of the peace, shall receive, to his own use, any fees or perquisites of office.

21. The Legislature may authorize the judgments, decrees and decisions of any local inferior court of record of original civil jurisdiction, established in a city, to be removed for review directly into the Court of Appeals.

22. The Legislature shall provide for the speedy publication of all statute laws, and of such judicial decisions as it may deem expedient. And all laws and judicial decisions shall be free for publication by any person.

23. Tribunals of conciliation may be established, with such powers and duties as may be prescribed by law, but such tribunals shall have no power to render judgment to be obligatory on the parties, except they voluntarily submit their matters in difference and agree to abide the judgment, or assent thereto, in the presence of such tribunal, in such cases as shall be prescribed by law.

24. The Legislature, at its first session after the adoption of this Constitution, shall provide for the appointment of three commissioners, whose duty it shall be to revise, reform, simplify and abridge the rules and practice, pleadings, forms and proceedings of the

courts of record of this State, and to report thereon to the Legislature, subject to their adoption and modification from time to time.

25. The Legislature, at its first session after the adoption of this Constitution, shall provide for the organization of the Court of Appeals, and for transferring to it the business pending in the Court for the Correction of Errors, and for the allowance of writs of error and appeals to the Court of Appeals, from the judgments and decrees of the present Court of Chancery and Supreme Court, and of the courts that may be organized under this Constitution.

## ARTICLE VII.

SEC. 1. After paying the expenses of collection, superintendence and ordinary repairs, there shall be appropriated and set apart in each fiscal year, out of the revenues of the State canals, commencing on the first day of June, one thousand eight hundred and forty-six, the sum of one million and three hundred thousand dollars, until the first day of June, one thousand eight hundred and fifty-five, and from that time the sum of one million and seven hundred thousand dollars in each fiscal year, as a sinking fund, to pay the interest and redeem the principal of that part of the State debt called the canal debt, as it existed at the time first aforesaid, and including three hundred thousand dollars then to be borrowed, until the same shall be wholly paid; and the principal and income of the said sinking fund shall be sacredly applied to that purpose.

2. After complying with the provisions of the first section of this article, there shall be appropriated and set apart out of the surplus revenues of the State canals, in each fiscal year, commencing on the first day of June, one thousand eight hundred and forty-six, the sum of three hundred and fifty thousand dollars, until the time when a sufficient sum shall have been appropriated and set apart, under the said first section, to pay the interest and extinguish the entire principal of the canal debt; and after that period, then the sum of one million and five hundred thousand dollars in each fiscal year, as a sinking fund, to pay the interest and redeem the principal of that part of the State debt called the general fund debt, including the debt for loans of the State credit to railroad companies which have failed to pay the interest thereon, and also the contingent debt on State stocks loaned to incorporated companies which have hitherto paid the interest thereon, whenever and as far as any part thereof may become a charge on the treasury or general fund, until the same shall be wholly paid; and the principal and income of the said last mentioned sinking fund shall be sacredly applied to the purpose aforesaid; and if the payment of any part of the moneys to the said sinking fund shall at any time be deferred, by reason of the priority recognized in the first section of this article, the sum so deferred, with quarterly interest thereon, at the then current rate, shall be paid to the last mentioned sinking fund, as soon as it can



be done consistently with the just rights of the creditors holding said canal debt.

3. After paying the said expenses of superintendence and repairs of the canals, and the sums appropriated by the first and second sections of this article, there shall be paid out of the surplus revenues of the canals, to the treasury of the State, on or before the thirtieth day of September, in each year, for the use and benefit of the general fund, such sum, not exceeding two hundred thousand dollars, as may be required to defray the necessary expenses of the State; and the remainder of the revenues of the said canals shall, in each fiscal year, be applied, in such manner as the Legislature shall direct, to the completion of the Erie canal enlargement, and the Genesee Valley and Black River canals, until the said canals shall be completed.\*

If at any time after the period of eight years from the adoption of this Constitution, the revenues of the State, unappropriated by this article, shall not be sufficient to defray the necessary expenses of the government, without continuing or laying a direct tax, the Legislature may, at its discretion, supply the deficiency, in whole or in part, from the surplus revenues of the canals, after complying with the provisions of the first two sections of this article, for paying the interest and extinguishing the principal of the canal and general fund debt; but the sum thus appropriated from the surplus revenues of the canals shall not exceed annually three hundred and fifty thousand dollars, including the sum of two hundred thousand dollars, provided for by this section for the expenses of the government, until the general fund debt shall be extinguished, or until the Erie canal enlargement and Genesee Valley and Black River canals shall be completed; and after that debt shall be paid, or the said canals shall be completed, then the sum of six hundred and seventy-two thousand five hundred dollars, or so much thereof as shall be necessary, may be annually appropriated to defray the expenses of the government.

4. The claims of the State against any incorporated company to pay the interest and redeem the principal of the stock of the State loaned or advanced to such company, shall be fairly enforced, and not released or compromised; and the moneys arising from such claims shall be set apart and applied as part of the sinking fund provided in the second section of this article. But the time limited for the fulfilment of any condition of any release or compromise heretofore made or provided for, may be extended by law.

5. If the sinking funds, or either of them, provided in this article, shall prove insufficient to enable the State, on the credit of such fund, to procure the means to satisfy the claims of the creditors of the State as they become payable, the Legislature shall, by equitable taxes, so increase the revenues of the said funds as to make them, respectively, sufficient perfectly to preserve the public faith. Every contribution or advance to the canals, or their debt, from any source

\* See Amendments.

other than their direct revenues, shall, with quarterly interest, at the rates then current, be repaid into the treasury, for the use of the State, out of the canal revenues, as soon as it can be done consistently with the just rights of the creditors holding the said canal debt.

6. The Legislature shall not sell, lease, or otherwise dispose of any of the canals of the State; but they shall remain the property of the State and under its management, forever.

7. The Legislature shall never sell or dispose of the salt springs belonging to this State. The lands contiguous thereto, and which may be necessary and convenient for the use of the salt springs, may be sold by authority of law and under the direction of the commissioners of the land office, for the purpose of investing the moneys arising therefrom in other lands alike convenient: but by such sale and purchase the aggregate quantity of these lands shall not be diminished.

8. No moneys shall ever be paid out of the Treasury of this State, or any of its funds, or any of the funds under its management, except in pursuance of an appropriation by law; nor unless such payment be made within two years next after the passage of such appropriation act; and every such law, making a new appropriation, or continuing or reviving an appropriation, shall distinctly specify the sum appropriated, and the object to which it is to be applied; and it shall not be sufficient for such law to refer to any other law to fix such sum.

9. The credit of the State shall not, in any manner, be given or loaned to, or in aid of any individual association or corporation.

10. The State may, to meet casual deficits or failures in revenues, or for expenses not provided for, contract debts, but such debts, direct and contingent, singly or in the aggregate, shall not at any time exceed one million of dollars; and the moneys arising from the loans creating such debts, shall be applied to the purpose for which they were obtained, or to pay the debt so contracted, and to no other purpose whatever.

11. In addition to the above limited power to contract debts, the State may contract debts to repel invasion, suppress insurrection, or defend the State in war; but the money arising from the contracting of such debts shall be applied to the purpose for which it was raised, or to repay such debts, and to no other purpose whatever.

12. Except the debts specified in the tenth and eleventh sections of this article, no debt shall be hereafter contracted by or on behalf of this State, unless such debt shall be authorized by a law, for some single work or object, to be distinctly specified therein; and such law shall impose and provide for the collection of a direct annual tax to pay, and sufficient to pay the interest on such debt as it falls due, and also to pay and discharge the principal of such debt within eighteen years from the time of the contracting thereof.

No such law shall take effect until it shall, at a general election,



have been submitted to the people, and have received a majority of all the votes cast for and against it, at such election.

On the final passage of such bill in either house of the Legislature, the question shall be taken by ayes and noes, to be duly entered on the journals thereof, and shall be: "Shall this bill pass, and ought the same to receive the sanction of the people?"

The Legislature may at any time, after the approval of such law by the people, if no debt shall have been contracted in pursuance thereof, repeal the same; and may at any time, by law, forbid the contracting of any further debt or liability under such law; but the tax imposed by such act, in proportion to the debt and liability which may have been contracted, in pursuance of such law, shall remain in force and be irrepealable, and be annually collected, until the proceeds thereof shall have made the provision herein before specified to pay and discharge the interest and principal of such debt and liability.

The money arising from any loan or stock creating such debt or liability, shall be applied to the work or object specified in the act authorising such debt or liability, or for the repayment of such debt or liability, and for no other purpose whatever.

No such law shall be submitted to be voted on, within three months after its passage, or at any general election, when any other law, or any bill, or any amendment to the Constitution, shall be submitted to be voted for or against.

13. Every law which imposes, continues or revives a tax, shall distinctly state the tax and the object to which it is to be applied; and it shall not be sufficient to refer to any other law to fix such tax or object.

14. On the final passage, in either house of the Legislature, of every act which imposes, continues, or revives a tax, or creates a debt or charge, or makes, continues or revives any appropriation of public or trust money or property, or releases, discharges, or commutes any claim or demand of the State, the question shall be taken by ayes and noes, which shall be duly entered on the journals, and three-fifths of all the members elected to either house, shall, in all such cases, be necessary to constitute a quorum therein.

## ARTICLE VIII.

SEC. 1. Corporations may be formed under general laws; but shall not be created by special act, except for municipal purposes, and in cases where in the judgment of the Legislature, the objects of the corporation cannot be attained under general laws. All general laws and special acts passed pursuant to this section, may be altered from time to time or repealed.

2. Dues from corporations shall be secured by such individual liability of the corporators and other means as may be prescribed by law.

3. The term corporations as used in this article, shall be construed to include all associations and joint-stock companies having any of the powers or privileges of corporations not possessed by individuals or partnerships. And all corporations shall have the right to sue and shall be subject to be sued in all courts in like cases as natural persons.

4. The Legislature shall have no power to pass any act granting any special charter for banking purposes; but corporations or associations may be formed for such purposes under general laws.

5. The Legislature shall have no power to pass any law sanctioning in any manner, directly or indirectly, the suspension of specie payments, by any person, association or corporation issuing bank notes of any description.

6. The Legislature shall provide by law for the registry of all bills or notes, issued or put in circulation as money, and shall require ample security for the redemption of the same in specie.

7. The stockholders in every corporation and joint-stock association for banking purposes, issuing bank notes, or any kind of paper credits to circulate as money, after the first day of January, one thousand eight hundred and fifty, shall be individually responsible to the amount of their respective share or shares of stock in any such corporation or association, for all its debts and liabilities of every kind, contracted after the said first day of January, one thousand eight hundred and fifty.

8. In case of the insolvency of any bank or banking association, the bill-holders thereof shall be entitled to preference in payment, over all other creditors of such bank or association.

9. It shall be the duty of the Legislature to provide for the organization of cities and incorporated villages, and to restrict their power of taxation, assessment, borrowing money, contracting debts and loaning their credit, so as to prevent abuses in assessments, and in contracting debt by such municipal corporations.

## ARTICLE IX.

SEC. 1. The capital of the common school fund; the capital of the literature fund, and the capital of the United States deposit fund, shall be respectively preserved inviolate. The revenue of the said common school fund shall be applied to the support of common schools; the revenues of the said literature fund shall be applied to the support of academies, and the sum of twenty-five thousand dollars of the revenues of the United States deposit fund shall each year be appropriated to and made a part of the capital of the said common school fund.

## ARTICLE X.

SEC. 1. Sheriffs, clerks of counties, including the register and clerk of the city and county of New-York, coroners, and district at-



torneys, shall be chosen, by the electors of the respective counties, once in every three years and as often as vacancies shall happen. Sheriffs shall hold no other office, and be ineligible for the next three years after the termination of their offices. They may be required by law, to renew their security, from time to time; and in default of giving such new security, their offices shall be deemed vacant. But the county shall never be made responsible for the acts of the sheriff.

The Governor may remove any officer, in this section mentioned, within the term for which he shall have been elected; giving to such officer a copy of the charges against him, and an opportunity of being heard in his defense.

2. All county officers whose election or appointment is not provided for by this Constitution, shall be elected by the electors of the respective counties, or appointed by the boards of supervisors, or other county authorities, as the Legislature shall direct. All city, town and village officers, whose election or appointment is not provided for by this Constitution, shall be elected by the electors of such cities, towns and villages, or of some division thereof, or appointed by such authorities thereof, as the Legislature shall designate for that purpose. All other officers whose election or appointment is not provided for by this Constitution, and all officers whose offices may hereafter be created by law, shall be elected by the people, or appointed, as the Legislature may direct.

3. When the duration of any office is not provided by this Constitution, it may be declared by law, and if not so declared, such office shall be held during the pleasure of the authority making the appointment.

4. The time of electing all officers named in this article shall be prescribed by law.

5. The Legislature shall provide for filling vacancies in office, and in case of elective officers, no person appointed to fill a vacancy shall hold his office by virtue of such appointment longer than the commencement of the political year next succeeding the first annual election after the happening of the vacancy.

6. The political year and legislative term, shall begin on the first day of January; and the Legislature shall every year assemble on the first Tuesday in January, unless a different day shall be appointed by law.

7. Provisions shall be made by law for the removal for misconduct or malversation in office of all officers (except judicial) whose powers and duties are not local or legislative and who shall be elected at general elections, and also for supplying vacancies created by such removal.

8. The Legislature may declare the cases in which any office shall be deemed vacant, where no provision is made for that purpose in this Constitution.

## ARTICLE XI.

SEC. 1. The militia of this State shall, at all times hereafter, be armed and disciplined, and in readiness for service; but all such inhabitants of this State, of any religious denomination whatever, as from scruples of conscience may be averse to bearing arms, shall be excused therefrom, upon such conditions as shall be prescribed by law.

2. Militia officers shall be chosen or appointed as follows:—captains, subalterns and non-commissioned officers shall be chosen by the written votes of the members of their respective companies. Field officers of regiments and separate battalions, by the written votes of the commissioned officers of the respective regiments and separate battalions; brigadier-generals and brigade inspectors, by the field officers of their respective brigades; major-generals, brigadier-generals and commanding officers of regiments or separate battalions, shall appoint the staff officers to their respective divisions, brigades, regiments or separate battalions.

3. The Governor shall nominate, and with the consent of the Senate appoint, all major-generals and the commissary-general. The adjutant-general and other chiefs of staff departments, and the aids-de-camp of the commander-in-chief, shall be appointed by the Governor, and their commissions shall expire with the time for which the Governor shall have been elected. The commissary-general shall hold his office for two years. He shall give security for the faithful execution of the duties of his office, in such manner and amount as shall be prescribed by law.

4. The Legislature shall, by law, direct the time and manner of electing militia officers, and of certifying their elections to the Governor.

5. The commissioned officers of the militia shall be commissioned by the Governor; and no commissioned officer shall be removed from office, unless by the Senate on the recommendation of the Governor, stating the grounds on which such removal is recommended, or by the decision of a court martial, pursuant to law. The present officers of the militia shall hold their commissions subject to removal, as before provided.

6. In case the mode of election and appointment of militia officers hereby directed, shall not be found conducive to the improvement of the militia, the Legislature may abolish the same, and provide by law for their appointment and removal, if two-thirds of the members present in each house shall concur therein.

## ARTICLE XII.

SEC. 1. Members of the Legislature and all officers, executive and judicial, except such inferior officers as may be by law exempted, shall, before they enter on the duties of their respective offices, take and subscribe the following oath or affirmation:



“I do solemnly swear (or affirm, as the case may be) that I will support the Constitution of the United States, and the Constitution of the State of New-York; and that I will faithfully discharge the duties of the office of \_\_\_\_\_ according to the best of my ability.”

And no other oath, declaration, or test shall be required as a qualification for any office or public trust.

### ARTICLE XIII.

SEC. 1. Any amendment or amendments to this Constitution may be proposed in the Senate and Assembly; and if the same shall be agreed to by a majority of the members elected to each of the two houses, such proposed amendment or amendments shall be entered on their journals with the yeas and nays taken thereon, and referred to the Legislature to be chosen at the next general election of Senators, and shall be published for three months previous to the time of making such choice; and if in the Legislature so next chosen, as aforesaid, such proposed amendment or amendments shall be agreed to by a majority of all the members elected to each house, then it shall be the duty of the Legislature to submit such proposed amendment or amendments to the people, in such manner and at such time as the Legislature shall prescribe; and if the people shall approve and ratify such amendment or amendments, by a majority of the electors qualified to vote for members of the Legislature, voting thereon, such amendment or amendments shall become part of the Constitution.

2. At the general election to be held in the year eighteen hundred and sixty-six, and in each twentieth year thereafter, and also at such time as the Legislature may by law provide, the question, “Shall there be a Convention to revise the Constitution, and amend the same?” shall be decided by the electors qualified to vote for members of the Legislature; and in case a majority of the electors so qualified, voting at such election, shall decide in favor of a Convention for such purpose, the Legislature, at its next session, shall provide by law for the election of delegates to such Convention.

### ARTICLE XIV.

SEC. 1. The first election of senators and members of Assembly, pursuant to the provisions of this Constitution, shall be held on the Tuesday succeeding the first Monday of November, one thousand eight hundred and forty-seven.

The senators and members of Assembly who may be in office on the first day of January, one thousand eight hundred and forty-seven, shall hold their offices until and including the thirty-first day of December following, and no longer.

2. The first election of Governor and Lieutenant-Governor under this Constitution, shall be held on the Tuesday succeeding the first Monday of November, one thousand eight hundred and forty-eight;

and the Governor and Lieutenant-Governor in office when this Constitution shall take effect, shall hold their respective offices until and including the thirty-first day of December of that year.

3. The Secretary of State, Comptroller, Treasurer, Attorney-General, District-Attorney, Surveyor-General, canal commissioners, and inspectors of State prisons, in office when this Constitution shall take effect, shall hold their respective offices until and including the thirty-first day of December, one thousand eight hundred and forty-seven, and no longer.

4. The first election of judges and clerk of the Court of Appeals, justices of the Supreme Court, and county judges, shall take place at such time between the first Tuesday of April and the second Tuesday of June, one thousand eight hundred and forty-seven, as may be prescribed by law. The said courts shall respectively enter upon their duties on the first Monday of July next thereafter; but the term of office of said judges, clerk and justices, as declared by this Constitution, shall be deemed to commence on the first day of January, one thousand eight hundred and forty-eight.

5. On the first Monday of July, one thousand eight hundred and forty-seven, jurisdiction of all suits and proceedings then pending in the present Supreme Court and Court of Chancery, and all suits and proceedings originally commenced and then pending in any court of common pleas, (except in the city and county of New-York,) shall become vested in the Supreme Court hereby established. Proceedings pending in courts of common pleas and in suits originally commenced in justices' courts, shall be transferred to the county courts provided for in this Constitution, in such manner and form and under such regulation as shall be provided by law. The courts of oyer and terminer hereby established, shall, in their respective counties, have jurisdiction, on and after the day last mentioned, of all indictments and proceedings then pending in the present courts of oyer and terminer, and also of all indictments and proceedings then pending in the present courts of general sessions of the peace, except in the city of New York, and except in cases of which the courts of sessions hereby established may lawfully take cognizance; and of such indictments and proceedings the courts of sessions hereby established shall have jurisdiction on and after the day last mentioned.

6. The Chancellor and the present Supreme Court shall, respectively, have power to hear and determine any of such suits and proceedings ready on the first Monday of July, one thousand eight hundred and forty-seven, for hearing or decision, and shall, for their services therein, be entitled to their present rates of compensation until the first day of July, one thousand eight hundred and forty-eight, or until all such suits and proceedings shall be sooner heard and determined. Masters in chancery may continue to exercise the functions of their office in the Court of Chancery, so long as the Chancellor shall continue to exercise the functions of his office under the provisions of this Constitution.



And the Supreme Court hereby established shall also have power to hear and determine such of said suits and proceedings as may be prescribed by law.

7. In case any vacancy shall occur in the office of Chancellor or justice of the present Supreme Court, previously to the first day of July, one thousand eight hundred and forty-eight, the Governor may nominate, and by and with the advice and consent of the Senate, appoint a proper person to fill such vacancy. Any judge of the Court of Appeals or justice of the Supreme Court, elected under this Constitution, may receive and hold such appointment.

8. The offices of Chancellor, justice of the existing Supreme Court, circuit judge, vice-chancellor, assistant vice-chancellor, judge of the existing county courts of each county, Supreme Court commissioner, master in chancery, examiner in chancery, and surrogate, (except as herein otherwise provided,) are abolished from and after the first Monday of July, one thousand eight hundred and forty-seven, (1847.)

9. The Chancellor, the justices of the present Supreme Court, and the circuit judges, are hereby declared to be severally eligible to any office at the first election under this Constitution.

10. Sheriffs, clerks of counties (including the register and clerk of the city and county of New-York) and justices of the peace, and coroners, in office when this Constitution shall take effect, shall hold their respective offices until the expiration of the term for which they were respectively elected.

11. Judicial officers in office when this Constitution shall take effect, may continue to receive such fees and perquisites of office as are now authorized by law, until the first day of July, one thousand eight hundred and forty-seven, notwithstanding the provisions of the twentieth section of the sixth article of this Constitution.

12. All local courts established in any city or village, including the superior court, common pleas, sessions and surrogate's courts of the city and county of New York, shall remain, until otherwise directed by the Legislature, with their present powers and jurisdictions; and the judges of such courts, and any clerks thereof, in office on the first day of January, one thousand eight hundred and forty-seven, shall continue in office until the expiration of their terms of office, or until the Legislature shall otherwise direct.

13. This Constitution shall be in force from and including the first day of January, one thousand eight hundred and forty-seven, except as is herein otherwise provided.

## AMENDMENT TO THE CONSTITUTION.

*Substitute for Section 3 of Article VII. the following:*

After paying the said expenses of collection, superintendence and repairs of the canals, and the sums appropriated by the first and second sections of this article, there shall be appropriated and set apart in each fiscal year, out of the surplus revenues of the canals, as a sinking fund, a sum sufficient to pay the interest as it falls due, and extinguish the principal within eighteen years, of any loan made under this section; and if the said sinking fund shall not be sufficient to redeem any part of the principal at the stipulated times of payment, or to pay any part of the interest of such loans as stipulated, the means to satisfy any such deficiency shall be procured on the credit of the said sinking fund. After complying with the foregoing provisions, there shall be paid annually out of the said revenues, into the treasury of the State, two hundred thousand dollars, to defray the necessary expenses of government. The remainder shall, in each fiscal year, be applied to meet appropriations for the enlargement and completion of the canals mentioned in this section, until the said canals shall be completed. In each fiscal year thereafter, the remainder shall be disposed of in such manner as the Legislature may direct; but shall at no time be anticipated or pledged for more than one year in advance. The Legislature shall annually, during the next four years, appropriate to the enlargement of the Erie, the Oswego, the Cayuga, and Seneca canals, and to the completion of the Black River and Genesee Valley canals, and for the enlargement of the locks of the Champlain canal; whenever from dilapidation or decay it shall be necessary to rebuild them, a sum not exceeding two millions two hundred and fifty thousand dollars. The remainder of the revenues of the canals, for the current fiscal year in which such appropriation is made, shall be applied to meet such appropriation, and if the same shall be deemed insufficient, the Legislature shall, at the same session, provide for the deficiency by loan. The Legislature shall also borrow one million and five hundred thousand dollars, to refund to the holders of the canal revenue certificates issued under the provisions of chapter four hundred and eighty-five of the Laws of the year one thousand eight hundred and fifty-one, the amount received into the treasury thereon. But no interest, to accrue after July first, one thousand eight hundred and fifty-five, shall be paid on such certificates. The provisions of section twelve of this article, requiring every law for borrowing money to be submitted to the people, shall not apply to the loans authorized by this section. No part of the revenues of the canals, or of the funds borrowed under this section, shall be paid or applied upon or in consequence of any alleged contract made under chapter four hundred and eighty-five of the Laws of the year one thousand



eight hundred and fifty-one, except to pay for work done, or materials furnished prior to the first day of June, one thousand eight hundred and fifty-two. The rates of toll on persons and property transported on the canals shall not be reduced below those for the year one thousand eight hundred and fifty-two, except by the canal board, with the concurrence of the Legislature. All contracts for work or materials on any canal shall be made with the person who shall offer to do or provide the same at the lowest price, with adequate security for their performance.

## NEW JERSEY.



NEW JERSEY was settled by the Dutch from New York, as early as 1620. The first settlement was at Bergen. In 1627 a colony of Swedes and Fins located themselves on the Delaware. This State was included in the grant of New York from Charles II. to the Duke of York. In 1664 the Duke made a grant of New Jersey to Lord Berkley and Sir George Carteret. They, by an agreement with the people, established a provincial government in 1665. The Dutch subdued the country in 1672, but resigned it by treaty in 1674. To avoid any difficulty in reference to titles, the Duke of York took out a new patent, and divided the province into East and West Jersey. West Jersey was assigned to the heirs of Lord Berkley, and East Jersey to Sir George Carteret. In 1675 the whole territory was purchased by a company of English emigrants. They located at Salem, and formed the first English settlement in this State. At length much dissatisfaction arose in regard to titles, which created great confusion—in consequence of which the appointment of Governor was rendered very difficult. It was carried so far, that in 1702 the proprietors surrendered the government to the English crown. This was accepted by Queen Anne, who established a royal government, which continued until the Revolution of 1776. Some of the hardest battles of the Revolutionary war were fought in this State. The first Constitution was adopted by New Jersey as a colony, in 1776. This remained unaltered until 1844, when the present Constitution was agreed upon as a substitute.

Area, 8,320 sq. m. Population, 1850, 489,333



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CONSTITUTION.

*In Convention, begun at Trenton, on the fourteenth day of May, and continued to the twenty-ninth day of June, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and forty-four:*

WE, the people of the State of New-Jersey, grateful to Almighty God for the civil and religious liberty which he hath so long permitted us to enjoy, and looking to him for a blessing upon our endeavors to secure and transmit the same unimpaired to succeeding generations, do ordain and establish this Constitution.

ARTICLE I.—*Rights and Privileges.*

SEC. 1. All men are by nature free and independent, and have certain natural and inalienable rights, among which are those of enjoying and defending life and liberty, acquiring, possessing, and protecting property, and of pursuing and obtaining safety and happiness.

2. All political power is inherent in the people.

Government is instituted for the protection, security, and benefit of the people, and they have the right at all times to alter or reform the same, whenever the public good may require it.

3. No person shall be deprived of the inestimable privilege of worshipping Almighty God in a manner agreeably to the dictates of his own conscience: nor under any pretence whatever be compelled to attend any place of worship contrary to his faith and judgment; nor shall any person be obliged to pay tithes, taxes, or other rates, for building or repairing any church or churches, place or places of worship, or for the maintenance of any minister or ministry, contrary to what he believes to be right, or has deliberately and voluntarily engaged to perform.

4. There shall be no establishment of one religious sect in preference to another: no religious test shall be required as a qualification for any office or public trust; and no person shall be denied the enjoyment of any civil right merely on account of his religious principles.

5. Every person may freely speak, write, and publish his sentiments on all subjects, being responsible for the abuse of that right. No law shall be passed to restrain or abridge the liberty of speech, or of the press. In all prosecutions or indictments for libel, the truth may be given in evidence to the jury; and if it shall appear to the jury that the matter charged as libellous is true, and was published with good motives, and for justifiable ends, the party shall be acquitted; and the jury shall have the right to determine the law and the fact.

6. The right of the people to be secure in their persons, houses, papers, and effects, against unreasonable searches and seizures, shall not be violated; and no warrant shall issue but upon probable cause, supported by oath or affirmation, and particularly describing the place to be searched, and the papers and things to be seized.

7. The right of trial by jury shall remain inviolate: but the Legislature may authorize the trial of civil suits, when the matter in dispute does not exceed fifty dollars, by a jury of six men.

8. In all criminal prosecutions, the accused shall have the right to a speedy and public trial by an impartial jury; to be informed of the nature and cause of the accusation; to be confronted with the witnesses against him; to have compulsory process for obtaining witnesses in his favor, and to have the assistance of counsel in his defense.

9. No person shall be held to answer for a criminal offense, unless on the presentment of indictment of a grand jury, except in cases of impeachment, or in cases cognizable by justices of the peace, or arising in the army or navy, or in the militia, when in actual service in time of war or public danger.

10. No person shall, after acquittal, be tried for the same offence. All persons shall, before conviction, be bailable by sufficient sureties, except for capital offences, when the proof is evident, or presumption great.

11. The privilege of the writ of habeas corpus shall not be suspended, unless, in case of rebellion or invasion, the public safety may require it.

12. The military shall be in strict subordination to the civil power.

13. No soldier shall, in time of peace, be quartered in any house without the consent of the owner, nor in time of war, except in a manner prescribed by law.

14. Treason against the State shall consist only in levying war against it, or in adhering to its enemies, giving them aid and comfort. No person shall be convicted of treason, unless on the testimony of two witnesses to the same overt act, or on confession in open court.

15. Excessive bail shall not be required, excessive fines shall not be imposed, and cruel and unusual punishments shall not be inflicted.

16. Private property shall not be taken for public use without just compensation, but land may be taken for public highways as heretofore, until the Legislature shall direct compensation to be made.

17. No person shall be imprisoned for debt in any action, or on any judgment founded upon contract, unless in cases of fraud; nor shall any person be imprisoned for a militia fine in time of peace.

18. The people have a right freely to assemble together, to consult for the common good, to make known their opinions to their representatives, and to petition for redress of grievances.

19. This enumeration of rights and privileges shall not be construed to impair or deny others retained by the people.



ARTICLE II.—*Right of Suffrage.*

1. Every white male citizen of the United States, of the age of twenty-one years, who shall have been a resident of this State one year, and of the county in which he claims his vote five months, next before the election, shall be entitled to vote for all officers that now are, or hereafter may be, elective by the people; *provided*, that no person in the military, naval, or marine service of the United States shall be considered a resident in this State, by being stationed in any garrison, barrack, or military, or naval place or station within the State; and no pauper, idiot, insane person, or person convicted of a crime which now excludes him from being a witness, unless pardoned and restored by law to the right of suffrage, shall enjoy the right of an elector.

2. The Legislature may pass laws to deprive persons of the right of suffrage who shall be convicted of bribery at elections.

ARTICLE III.—*Distribution of the Powers of Government.*

The powers of the Government shall be divided into three distinct departments—the legislative, executive, and judicial; and no person or persons belonging to, or constituting one of these departments, shall exercise any of the powers properly belonging to either of the others, except as herein expressly provided.

ARTICLE IV.—*Legislative.*

SEC. I.—1. The legislative power of this State shall be vested in a Senate and General Assembly.

2. No person shall be a member of the Senate who shall not have attained the age of thirty years, and have been a citizen and inhabitant of the State for four years, and of the county for which he shall be chosen one year, next before his election; and no person shall be a member of the General Assembly who shall not have attained the age of twenty-one years, and have been a citizen and inhabitant of the State for two years, and of the county for which he shall be chosen one year next before his election; *provided*, that no person shall be eligible as a member of either house of the Legislature, who shall not be entitled to the right of suffrage.

3. Members of the Senate and General Assembly shall be elected yearly, and every year, on the second Tuesday of October; and the two houses shall meet separately on the second Tuesday in January next after the said day of election: at which time of meeting the legislative year shall commence, but the time of holding such election may be altered by the Legislature.

SEC. II.—1. The Senate shall be composed of one Senator from each county in the State, elected by the legal voters of the counties respectively, for three years.

2. As soon as the Senate shall meet after the first election to be held in pursuance of this Constitution, they shall be divided as equally as may be into three classes. The seats of the senators of the first class shall be vacated at the expiration of the first year; of the second class at the expiration of the second year; and of the third class at the expiration of the third year; so that one class may be elected every year: and if vacancies happen, by resignation or otherwise, the persons elected to supply such vacancies shall be elected for the unexpired terms only.

SEC. III.—1. The General Assembly shall be composed of members annually elected by the legal voters of the counties respectively, who shall be apportioned among the said counties as nearly as may be according to the number of their inhabitants. The present apportionment shall continue until the next census of the United States shall have been taken, and an apportionment of members of the General Assembly shall be made by the Legislature at its first session after the next and every subsequent enumeration or census, and when made, shall remain unaltered until another enumeration shall have been taken; provided, that each county shall at all times be entitled to one member: and the whole number of members shall never exceed sixty.

SEC. IV.—1. Each house shall direct writs of election for supplying vacancies, occasioned by death, resignation or otherwise; but if no vacancies occur during the recess of the Legislature, the writs may be issued by the Governor, under such regulations as may be prescribed by law.

2. Each house shall be the judge of the elections, returns and qualifications of its own members, and a majority of each shall constitute a quorum to do business; but a smaller number may adjourn from day to day, and may be authorized to compel the attendance of absent members, in such manner, and under such penalties as each house may provide.

3. Each house shall choose its own officers, determine the rules of its proceedings, punish its members for disorderly behaviour, and, with the concurrence of two-thirds, may expel a member.

4. Each house shall keep a journal of its proceedings, and from time to time publish the same; and the yeas and nays of the members of either house on any question shall, at the desire of one-fifth of those present, be entered on the journal.

5. Neither house, during the session of the Legislature, shall, without the consent of the other, adjourn for more than three days, nor to any other place than that in which the two houses shall be sitting.

6. All bills and joint resolutions shall be read three times in each house, before the final passage thereof; and no bill or joint resolution shall pass, unless there be a majority of all the members of each body personally present, and agreeing thereto; and the yeas and nays of



the members voting on such final passage shall be entered on the journal.

7. Members of the Senate and General Assembly shall receive a compensation for their services, to be ascertained by law, and paid out of the treasury of the State; which compensation shall not exceed the sum of three dollars per day for the period of forty days from the commencement of the session; and shall not exceed the sum of one dollar and fifty cents per day for the remainder of the session. When convened in extra session by the Governor, they shall receive such sum as shall be fixed for the first forty days of the ordinary session. They shall also receive the sum of one dollar for every ten miles they shall travel, in going to and returning from their place of meeting, on the most usual route. The President of the Senate, and the Speaker of the House of Assembly shall, in virtue of their offices, receive an additional compensation, equal to one-third of their per diem allowance as members.

8. Members of the Senate and General Assembly shall, in all cases except treason, felony, and breach of the peace, be privileged from arrest during their attendance at the sitting of their respective houses, and in going to and returning from the same: and for any speech or debate, in either house, they shall not be questioned in any other place.

SEC. V.—1. No member of the Senate or General Assembly shall, during the time for which he was elected, be nominated or appointed by the Governor, or by the Legislature in joint meeting, to any civil office under the authority in this State, which shall have been created, or the emoluments whereof shall have been increased, during such time.

2. If any member of the Senate or General Assembly shall be elected to represent this State in the Senate or House of Representatives of the United States, and shall accept thereof, or shall accept of any office or appointment under the government of the United States, his seat in the Legislature of this State shall thereby be vacated.

3. No justice of the Supreme Court, nor judge of any other court, sheriff, justice of the peace, nor any person or persons possessed of any office of profit under the government of this State, shall be entitled to a seat either in the Senate or in the General Assembly; but, on being elected and taking his seat, his office shall be considered vacant; and no person holding any office of profit under the government of the United States shall be entitled to a seat in either house.

SEC. VI.—1. All bills for raising revenue shall originate in the House of Assembly; but the Senate may propose or concur with amendments, as on other bills.

2. No money shall be drawn from the treasury, but for appropriations made by law.

3. The credit of the State shall not be directly or indirectly loaned in any case.

4. The Legislature shall not, in any manner, create any debt or debts, liability or liabilities, of the State, which shall singly, or in the aggregate with any previous debts or liabilities, at any time exceed one hundred thousand dollars, except for purposes of war, or to repel invasion, or to suppress insurrection, unless the same shall be authorized by a law for some single object or work, to be distinctly specified therein; which law shall provide the ways and means, exclusive of loans, to pay the interest of such debt or liability as it falls due, and also, to pay and discharge the principal of such debt or liability within thirty-five years from the time of the contracting thereof, and shall be irrevocable until such debt or liability, and the interest thereon, are fully paid and discharged; and no such law shall take effect until it shall, at a general election, have been submitted to the people, and have received the sanction of a majority of all the votes cast for and against it at such election; and all money to be raised by the authority of such law shall be applied only to the specific object stated therein, and to the payment of the debt thereby created. This section shall not be construed to refer to any money that has been, or may be deposited with this State by the government of the United States.

SEC. VII.—1. No divorce shall be granted by the Legislature.

2. No lottery shall be authorized by this State; and no tickets in any lottery not authorized by a law of this State, shall be bought or sold within the State.

3. The Legislature shall not pass any bill of attainder, ex post facto law, or law impairing the obligation of contracts, or depriving a party of any remedy for enforcing a contract, which existed when the contract was made.

4. To avoid improper influences which may result from intermixing in one and the same act, such things as have no proper relation to each other, every law shall embrace but one object, and that shall be expressed in the title.

5. The laws of this State shall begin in the following style: "Be it enacted by the Senate and General Assembly of the State of New Jersey."

6. The fund for the support of free schools, and all money, stock, and other property, which may hereafter be appropriated for that purpose, or received into the treasury under the provision of any law heretofore passed to augment the said fund, shall be securely invested, and remain a perpetual fund; and the income thereof, except so much as it may be judged expedient to apply to an increase of the capital, shall be annually appropriated to the support of public schools, for the equal benefit of all the people of the State; and it shall not be competent for the Legislature to borrow, appro-



priate, or use the said fund, or any part thereof, for any other purpose, under any pretence whatever.

7. No private or special law shall be passed, authorizing the sale of any lands belonging in whole or in part to a minor or minors, or other persons who may at the time be under any legal disability to act for themselves.

8. The assent of three-fifths of the members elected to each house shall be requisite to the passage of every law for granting, continuing, altering, amending, or renewing charters for banks, or money corporations; and all such charters shall be limited to a term not exceeding twenty years.

9. Individuals, or private corporations, shall not be authorized to take private property for public use, without just compensation first made to the owners.

10. The Legislature may vest in the circuit courts, or courts of common pleas, within the several counties of this State, chancery powers, so far as relates to the foreclosure of mortgages, and sale of mortgaged premises.

SEC. VIII.—1. Members of the Legislature shall, before they enter on the duties of their respective offices, take and subscribe the following oath or affirmation:

“I do solemnly swear, (or affirm, as the case may be,) that I will support the Constitution of the United States, and the Constitution of the State of New Jersey, and that I will faithfully discharge the duties of senator (or member of the General Assembly, as the case may be,) according to the best of my ability.”

And members elect of the Senate or General Assembly, are hereby empowered to administer to each other the said oath or affirmation.

#### ARTICLE V.—*Executive.*

SEC. 1. The executive power shall be vested in a Governor.

2. The Governor shall be elected by the legal voters of the State. The person having the highest number of votes shall be the Governor; but if two or more shall be equal, and highest in votes, one of them shall be chosen Governor by the votes of the majority of the members of both houses in joint meeting. Contested elections for the office of Governor shall be determined in such manner as the Legislature shall direct by law. When a Governor is to be elected by the people, such election shall be held at the time when, and at the places where the people shall respectively vote for members of the Legislature.

3. The Governor shall hold his office for three years, to commence on the third Tuesday of January next ensuing the election for Governor by the people, and to end on the Monday preceding the third Tuesday of January, three years thereafter; and he shall be incapable of holding that office for three years next after his term of service shall have expired; and no appointment or nomination to

office shall be made by the Governor during the last week of his said term.

4. The Governor shall not be less than thirty years of age, and shall have been, for twenty years, at least, a citizen of the United States, and a resident of this State seven years next before his election, unless he shall have been absent during that time, on the public business of the United States, or of this State.

5. The Governor shall, at stated times, receive for his services a compensation which shall be neither increased nor diminished during the period for which he shall have been elected.

6. He shall be the commander-in-chief of all the military and naval forces of the State; he shall have power to convene the Legislature, whenever, in his opinion, public necessity requires it; he shall communicate, by message, to the Legislature at the opening of each session, and at such other times as he may deem necessary, the condition of the State, and recommend such measures as he may deem expedient; he shall take care that the laws be faithfully executed, and grant, under the great seal of the State, commissions to all such officers as shall be required to be commissioned.

7. Every bill which shall have passed both houses, shall be presented to the Governor: if he approve, he shall sign it, but if not, he shall return it, with his objections, to the house in which it shall have originated, who shall enter the objections at large on their journal, and proceed to re-consider it; if, after such re-consideration, a majority of the whole number of that house shall agree to pass the bill, it shall be sent, together with the objections, to the other house, by whom it shall likewise be re-considered, and if approved of by a majority of the whole number of that house, it shall become a law; but in neither house shall the vote be taken on the same day on which the bill shall be returned to it: and in all such cases the votes of both houses shall be determined by yeas and nays, and the names of the persons voting for and against the bill shall be entered on the journal of each house respectively. If any bill shall not be returned by the Governor, within five days (Sundays excepted) after it shall have been presented to him, the same shall be a law, in like manner as if he had signed it, unless the Legislature by their adjournment, prevent its return, in which case it shall not be a law.

8. No member of Congress, or person holding an office under the United States, or this State, shall exercise the office of Governor; and in case the Governor, or person administering the government, shall accept any office under the United States, or this State, his office of Governor shall thereupon be vacant.

9. The Governor, or person administering the government, shall have power to suspend the collection of fines and forfeitures, and to grant reprieves, to extend until the expiration of a time not exceeding ninety days after conviction; but this power shall not extend to cases of impeachment.

10. The Governor, or person administering the government, the



Chancellor, and the six judges of the Court of Errors and Appeals, or a major part of them, of whom the Governor, or the person administering the government shall be one, may remit fines and forfeitures, and grant pardons after conviction, in all cases except impeachment.

11. The Governor, and all other civil officers under this State, shall be liable to impeachment for misdemeanor in office, during their continuance in office, and for two years thereafter.

12. In case of the death, resignation, or removal from office of the Governor, the powers, duties, and emoluments of the office shall devolve upon the President of the Senate; and in case of his death, resignation, or removal, then upon the Speaker of the House of Assembly, for the time being, until another Governor shall be elected and qualified; but in such case, another Governor shall be chosen at the next election for members of the Legislature, unless death, resignation, or removal shall occur within thirty days immediately preceding such next election, in which case a Governor shall be chosen at the second succeeding election for members of the Legislature. When a vacancy happens, during the recess of the Legislature, in any office which is to be filled by the Governor and Senate, or by the Legislature in joint meeting, the Governor shall fill such vacancy, and the commission shall expire at the end of the next session of the Legislature, unless a successor shall be sooner appointed: when a vacancy happens in the office of clerk or surrogate of any county, the Governor shall fill such vacancy, and the commission shall expire when a successor is elected and qualified.

13. In case of the impeachment of the Governor, his absence from the State, or inability to discharge the duties of his office, the powers, duties, and emoluments of the office shall devolve upon the President of the Senate; and in case of his death, resignation, or removal, then upon the Speaker of the House of Assembly for the time being, until the Governor, absent or impeached, shall return or be acquitted, or until the disqualification or inability shall cease, or until a new Governor be elected and qualified.

14. In case of a vacancy in the office of Governor, from any other cause than herein enumerated, or in case of the death of the Governor elect, before he is qualified into office, the powers, duties, and emoluments of the office shall devolve upon the President of the Senate, or Speaker of the House of Assembly, as above provided for, until a new Governor be elected and qualified.

## ARTICLE VI.—*Judiciary.*

SEC. I.—1. The judicial power shall be vested in a Court of Errors and Appeals, in the last resort in all causes, as heretofore; a Court for the trial of Impeachments; a Court of Chancery; a Prerogative Court; a Supreme Court; circuit courts, and such inferior courts as now exist, and as may be hereafter ordained and estab-

lished by law; which inferior courts the Legislature may alter or abolish, as the public good shall require.

SEC. II.—1. The Court of Errors and Appeals shall consist of the Chancellor, the justice of the Supreme Court, and six judges, or a major part of them; which judges are to be appointed for six years.

2. Immediately after the court shall first assemble, the six judges shall arrange themselves in such manner that the seat of one of them shall be vacated every year, in order that thereafter one judge may be annually appointed.

3. Such of the six judges as shall attend the court shall receive, respectively, a per diem compensation, to be provided by law.

4. The Secretary of State shall be clerk of this court.

5. When an appeal from an order or decree shall be heard, the Chancellor shall inform the court, in writing, of the reasons for his order or decree; but he shall not sit as a member, or have a voice in the hearing or final sentence.

6. When a writ of error shall be brought, no justice who has given a judicial opinion in the cause, in favor of or against any error complained of, shall sit as a member, or have a voice on the hearing, or for its affirmance or reversal; but the reasons for such opinion shall be assigned to the court in writing.

SEC. III.—1. The House of Assembly shall have the sole power of impeaching, by a vote of a majority of all the members; and all impeachments shall be tried by the Senate: the members, when sitting for that purpose, to be on oath or affirmation "truly and impartially to try and determine the charge in question according to evidence:" and no person shall be convicted without the concurrence of two-thirds of all the members of the Senate.

2. Any judicial officer impeached shall be suspended from exercising his office until his acquittal.

3. Judgment in cases of impeachment shall not extend farther than to removal from office and to disqualification to hold and enjoy any office of honor, profit, or trust under this State; but the party convicted shall nevertheless be liable to indictment, trial, and punishment, according to law.

4. The Secretary of State shall be the clerk of this court.

SEC. IV.—1. The Court of Chancery shall consist of a Chancellor.

2. The Chancellor shall be the ordinary, or surrogate general, and judge of the Prerogative Court.

3. All persons aggrieved by any order, sentence, or decree of the Orphans' Court, may appeal from the same, or from any part thereof, to the Prerogative Court; but such order, sentence, or decree shall not be removed into the Supreme Court, or Circuit Court, if the subject matter thereof be within the jurisdiction of the Orphans' Court.

4. The Secretary of State shall be the register of the Prerogative



Court, and shall perform the duties required of him by law in that respect.

SEC. V.—1. The Supreme Court shall consist of a chief justice and four associate justices. The number of associate justices may be increased or decreased by law, but shall never be less than two.

2. The circuit courts shall be held in every county of this State, by one or more of the justices of the Supreme Court, or a judge appointed for that purpose; and shall in all cases within the county, except in those of a criminal nature, have common law jurisdiction concurrent with the Supreme Court; and any final judgment of a Circuit Court may be docketed in the Supreme Court, and shall operate as a judgment obtained in the Supreme Court, from the time of such docketing.

3. Final judgments in any circuit court may be brought, by writ of error, into the Supreme Court, or directly into the Court of Errors and Appeals.

SEC. VI.—1. There shall be no more than five judges of the inferior court of Common Pleas in each of the counties in this State, after the terms of the judges of said court now in office shall terminate. One judge for each county shall be appointed every year, and no more, except to fill vacancies, which shall be for the unexpired term only.

2. The commissions for the first appointments of judges of said court, shall bear date and take effect on the first day of April next; and all subsequent commissions for judges of said court shall bear date and take effect on the first day of April in every successive year, except commissions to fill vacancies, which shall bear date and take effect when issued.

SEC. VII.—1. There may be elected under this Constitution two, and not more than five, justices of the peace in each of the townships of the several counties of this State, and in each of the wards, in cities that may vote in wards. When a township or ward contains two thousand inhabitants, or less, it may have two justices; when it contains more than two thousand inhabitants, and not more than four thousand, it may have four justices; and when it contains more than four thousand inhabitants, it may have five justices; provided, that whenever any township, not voting in wards, contains more than seven thousand inhabitants, such township may have an additional justice for each additional three thousand inhabitants above four thousand.

2. The population of the townships in the several counties of the State and of the several wards, shall be ascertained by the last preceding census of the United States, until the Legislature shall provide by law some other mode of ascertaining it.

## ARTICLE VII.

*Appointing Power and Tenure of Office.—Militia Officers.*

SEC. 1. The Legislature shall provide by law for enrolling, organizing, and arming the militia.

2. Captains, subalterns, and non-commissioned officers shall be elected by the members of their respective companies.

3. Field officers of regiments, independent battalions and squadrons, shall be elected by the commissioned officers of their respective regiments, battalions, or squadrons.

4. Brigadier-generals shall be elected by the field officers of their respective brigades.

5. Major-generals shall be nominated by the Governor, and appointed by him, with the advice and consent of the Senate.

6. The Legislature shall provide, by law, the time and manner of electing militia officers, and of certifying their elections to the Governor, who shall grant their commissions and determine their rank, when not determined by law;—and no commissioned officer shall be removed from office but by the sentence of a court martial, pursuant to law.

7. In case the electors of subalterns, captains, or field officers, shall refuse or neglect to make such elections, the Governor shall have power to appoint such officers, and to fill all vacancies caused by such refusal or neglect.

8. Brigade inspectors shall be chosen by the field officers of their respective brigades.

9. The Governor shall appoint the adjutant-general, quartermaster-general, and all other militia officers whose appointment is not otherwise provided for in this Constitution.

10. Major-generals, brigadier-generals, and commanding officers of regiments, independent battalions, and squadrons, shall appoint the staff officers of their divisions, brigades, regiments, independent battalions, and squadrons, respectively.

*Civil Officers.*

SEC. II.—1. Justices of the Supreme Court, Chancellor, and judges of the Court of Errors and Appeals, shall be nominated by the Governor, and appointed by him, with the advice and consent of the Senate.

The Justices of the Supreme Court, and Chancellor, shall hold their offices for the term of seven years; shall, at stated times, receive for their services a compensation, which shall not be diminished during the term of their appointments; and they shall hold no other office under the government of this State, or the United States.

2. Judges of the Court of Common Pleas shall be appointed by Senate and General Assembly, in joint meeting.

They shall hold their offices for five years: but when appointed to fill vacancies, they shall hold for the unexpired term only.



3. The State Treasurer and the keeper and inspectors of the State Prison, shall be appointed by the Senate and General Assembly, in joint meeting.

They shall hold their offices for one year, and until their successors shall be qualified into office.

4. The Attorney-General, prosecutors of the pleas, clerk of the Supreme Court, clerk of the Court of Chancery, and Secretary of State, shall be nominated by the Governor, and appointed by him, with the advice and consent of the Senate.

They shall hold their offices for five years.

5. The law reporter shall be appointed by the justices of the Supreme Court, or a majority of them; and the chancery reporter shall be appointed by the Chancery.

They shall hold their offices for five years.

6. Clerks and surrogates of counties shall be elected by the people of their respective counties, at the annual election for members of the General Assembly.

They shall be commissioned by the Governor, and hold their offices for five years.

7. Sheriffs and coroners shall be elected annually by the people of their respective counties, at the annual elections for members of the General Assembly.

They may be re-elected until they shall have served three years, but no longer; after which, three years must elapse before they can be again capable of serving.

8. Justices of the peace shall be elected by ballot at the annual meetings of the townships in the several counties of the State, and of the wards in cities that may vote in wards, in such manner, and under such regulations, as may be hereafter provided by law.

They shall be commissioned for the county, and their commissions shall bear date and take effect on the first day of May next after their election.

They shall hold their offices for five years;—except when elected to fill vacancies, they shall hold for the unexpired term only; *provided*, that the commission of any justice of the peace shall become vacant upon his ceasing to reside in the township in which he was elected.

The first election for justices of the peace shall take place at the next annual town meetings of the townships in the several counties of the State, and of the wards in cities that may vote in wards.

9. All other officers, whose appointments are not otherwise provided for by law, shall be nominated by the Governor, and appointed by him, with the advice and consent of the Senate; and they shall hold their offices for the time prescribed by law.

10. All civil officers nominated by the Governor, and appointed by him, with the advice and consent of the Senate, shall be commissioned by the Governor.

11. The term of office of all officers elected or appointed pursu-

ant to the provisions of this Constitution, except when herein otherwise directed, shall commence on the day of the date of their respective commissions; but no commission for any office shall bear date prior to the expiration of the term of the incumbent of said office.

#### ARTICLE VIII.—*General Provisions.*

1. The Secretary of State shall be ex-officio an auditor of the accounts of the Treasurer, and, as such, it shall be his duty to assist the Legislature in the annual examination and settlement of said accounts, until otherwise provided by law.

2. The seal of the State shall be kept by the Governor or person administering the Government, and used by him officially, and shall be called the great seal of the State of New Jersey.

3. All grants and commissions shall be in the name and by the authority of the State of New Jersey, sealed with the great seal, signed by the Governor, or person administering the Government, and countersigned by the Secretary of State, and shall run thus: "The State of New Jersey to \_\_\_\_\_, greeting." All writs shall be in the name of the State; and all indictments shall conclude in the following manner, viz.: "against the peace of this State, the government and dignity of the same."

4. This Constitution shall take effect and go into operation on the second day of September, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and forty-four.

#### ARTICLE IX.—*Amendments.*

Any specific amendment or amendments to the Constitution may be proposed in the Senate or General Assembly, and if the same shall be agreed to by a majority of the members elected to each of the two houses, such proposed amendment or amendments shall be entered on their journals, with the yeas and nays taken thereon, and referred to the Legislature then next to be chosen, and shall be published for three months previous to making such choice, in at least one newspaper of each county, if any be published therein; and if in the Legislature next chosen, as aforesaid, such proposed amendment or amendments, or any of them, shall be agreed to by a majority of all the members elected to each house, then it shall be the duty of the Legislature to submit to such proposed amendment or amendments; or such of them as may have been agreed to as aforesaid by the two Legislatures, to the people, in such manner and at such time, at least four months after the adjournment of the Legislature, as the Legislature shall prescribe; and if the people, at a special election to be held for that purpose only, shall approve and ratify such amendment or amendments, or any of them, by a majority of the electors qualified to vote for members of the Legislature voting thereon, such amendment or amendments, so approved and ratified, shall become part of the Constitution; *provided*, that if more



than one amendment be submitted, they shall be submitted in such manner and form that the people may vote for or against each amendment separately and distinctly; but no amendment or amendments shall be submitted to the people by the Legislature oftener than once in five years.

#### ARTICLE X.—*Schedule.*

That no inconvenience may arise from the change in the Constitution of this State, and in order to carry the same into complete operation, it is hereby declared and ordained, that—

1. The common law and the statute laws now in force, not repugnant to this Constitution, shall remain in force until they expire by their own limitation, or be altered or repealed by the Legislature; and all writs, actions, causes of such action, prosecutions, contracts, claims, and rights of individuals, and of bodies corporate, and of the State, and all charters of incorporations, shall continue, and all indictments which shall have been found, or which may hereafter be found, for any crime or offence committed before the adoption of this Constitution, may be proceeded upon as if no change had taken place. The several courts of law and equity, except as herein otherwise provided, shall continue with the like powers and jurisdiction as if this Constitution had not been adopted.

2. All officers now filling any office or appointment, shall continue in the exercise of the duties thereof, according to their respective commissions or appointments unless by this Constitution it is otherwise directed.

3. The present Governor, Chancellor, and Ordinary or Surrogate-General, and Treasurer of this State, shall continue in office until successors elected or appointed under this Constitution shall be sworn or affirmed into office.

4. In case of the death, resignation, or disability of the present Governor, the person who may be Vice-President of the Council at the time of the adoption of this Constitution shall continue in office, and administer the government, until a Governor shall have been elected and sworn or affirmed into office under this Constitution.

5. The present Governor, or in case of his death, or disability to act, the Vice-President of Council, together with the present members of the Legislative Council and Secretary of State shall constitute a board of State canvassers, in the manner now provided by law, for the purpose of ascertaining and declaring the result of the next ensuing election for Governor, members of the House of Representatives, and electors of the President and Vice-President.

6. The returns of the votes for Governor, at the said next ensuing election shall be transmitted to the Secretary of State, the votes counted, and the election declared, in the manner now provided by law in the case of the election of electors of President and Vice-President.

7. The election of clerks and surrogates in those counties where the term of office of the present incumbent shall expire previous to the general election of eighteen hundred and forty-five, shall be held at the general election next ensuing the adoption of this Constitution; the result of which election shall be ascertained in the manner now provided by law for the election of sheriffs.

8. The elections for the year eighteen hundred and forty-four shall take place as now provided by law.

9. It shall be the duty of the Governor to fill all vacancies in office happening between the adoption of this Constitution and the first session of the Senate, and not otherwise provided for; and the commissions shall expire at the end of the first session of the Senate, or when a successor shall be elected or appointed and qualified.

10. The restriction of the pay of members of the Legislature, after forty days from the commencement of the session, shall not be applied to the first Legislature convened under this Constitution.

11. Clerks of counties shall be clerks of the inferior courts of common pleas and quarter sessions of the several counties, and perform the duties, and be subject to the regulations now required of them by law, until otherwise ordained by the Legislature.

12. The Legislature shall pass all laws necessary to carry into effect the provisions of the Constitution.



## PENNSYLVANIA.



PENNSYLVANIA was first settled by the Swedes in 1638, who purchased the territory from the natives, but they were conquered by the Dutch in 1654. At the time the English took New Netherland, in 1664, the Dutch possessions on the Delaware river fell into their hands, and for several years were subject to the Governor of New York. In 1681, Pennsylvania was granted by Charles II. to William Penn, a member of the Society of Friends, in consideration of the services of his father as British Admiral. In 1682, Penn disposed of some 20,000 acres to a company of Friends for £400 sterling. A colony of 2000 came over about this time, and settled in Philadelphia. The State was governed by deputies, appointed by the proprietors, until the commencement of the Revolutionary War. Penn died in 1718, leaving his interests in Pennsylvania as an inheritance to his children. Their claim was eventually purchased by the commonwealth for £130,000 sterling. In 1768, Mason and Dixon's line was drawn to mark the boundary between this State and Maryland; and, in 1784, the north-western portion of this State, not being included in the former purchase, was bought of the Indians. The first Constitution was adopted in 1776, the second in 1790, and the present one in 1838.

Area, 46,000 sq. m. Pop., in 1850, 2,311,681.

Philadelphia is the most important city in Pennsylvania, and next to New York in the Union, with a population of 220,423. It is marked for its regularity and beauty. This city was the seat of the General Government from 1776 to 1800, when it was removed to Washington. Among its many public buildings is the old State House, in Chesnut street, erected 1735. In this Congress sat when Independence was declared, and here the Convention assembled that framed the Constitution of the United States. The room in which they sat is carefully preserved as it was. The original bell, cast many years before the Declaration, still hangs in the tower, and bears this interesting inscription: "Proclaim liberty throughout the land, unto all the inhabitants thereof."—Levit. xxv. 10

## CONSTITUTION.\*

*We, the People of the commonwealth of Pennsylvania, ordain and establish this Constitution for its government.*

## ARTICLE I.

SEC. 1. The Legislative power of this commonwealth shall be vested in a General Assembly, which shall consist of a Senate and House of Representatives.

2. The representatives shall be chosen annually, by the citizens, on the second Tuesday of October.

3. No person shall be a representative who shall not have attained the age of twenty-one years, and have been a citizen and inhabitant of the State three years next preceding his election, and the last year thereof an inhabitant of the district in and for which he shall be chosen a representative, unless he shall have been absent on the public business of the United States or of this State.

4. In the year one thousand eight hundred and sixty-four, and in every seventh year thereafter, representatives to the number of one hundred, shall be apportioned and distributed equally, throughout the State, by districts, in proportion to the number of taxable inhabitants in the several parts thereof; except that any county containing at least three thousand five hundred taxables, may be allowed a separate representation; but no more than three counties shall be joined, and no county shall be divided in the formation of a district. Any city containing a sufficient number of taxables to entitle it to at least two representatives, shall have a separate representation assigned it, and shall be divided into convenient districts of contiguous territory, of equal taxable population as near as may be, each of which districts shall elect one representative.†

5. The senators shall be chosen for three years by the citizens at the same time, in the same manner, and at the same places where they shall vote for representatives.

6. The number of senators shall, at the several periods of making the enumeration before mentioned, be fixed by the Legislature, and apportioned among the districts formed as hereinafter directed, according to the number of taxable inhabitants in each; and shall never be less than one-fourth, nor greater than one-third of the number of representatives.

7. The senators shall be chosen in districts, to be formed by the Legislature; but no district shall be so formed as to entitle it to elect more than two senators, unless the number of taxable inhabitants in any city or county shall, at any time, be such as to entitle it to elect more than two, but no city or county shall be entitled to elect

\* As amended and adopted in 1857.

† Third amendment of 1857.



more than four senators; when a district shall be composed of two or more counties, they shall be adjoining; and no county shall be divided in forming a district.\*

8. No person shall be a senator who shall not have attained the age of twenty-five years, and have been a citizen and inhabitant of the State four years next before his election, and the last year thereof an inhabitant of the district for which he shall be chosen, unless he shall have been absent on the public business of the United States or of this State; and no person elected as aforesaid shall hold said office after he shall have removed from such district.

9. The senators who may be elected at the first general election after the adoption of the amendments to the Constitution, shall be divided by lot into three classes. The seats of the senators of the first class shall be vacated at the expiration of the first year: of the second class at the expiration of the second year; and of the third class at the expiration of the third year; so that thereafter one-third of the whole number of senators may be chosen every year. The senators elected before the amendments to the Constitution shall be adopted shall hold their offices during the term for which they shall respectively have been elected.

10. The General Assembly shall meet on the first Tuesday of January, in every year, unless sooner convened by the Governor.

11. Each house shall choose its speaker and other officers; and the Senate shall also choose a speaker pro tempore, when the speaker shall exercise the office of Governor.

12. Each house shall judge of the qualifications of its members. Contested elections shall be determined by a committee to be selected, formed and regulated in such manner as shall be directed by law. A majority of each house shall constitute a quorum to do business; but a smaller number may adjourn from day to day, and may be authorized by law to compel the attendance of absent members, in such manner and under such penalties as may be provided.

13. Each house may determine the rules of its proceedings, punish its members for disorderly behavior, and with the concurrence of two-thirds, expel a member, but not a second time for the same cause; and shall have all other powers necessary for a branch of the Legislature of a free State.

14. The Legislature shall not have power to enact laws annulling the contract of marriage in any case where, by law, the courts of this commonwealth are, or hereafter may be, empowered to decree a divorce.

15. Each house shall keep a journal of its proceedings, and publish them weekly, except such parts as may require secrecy: and the yeas and nays of the members on any question shall, at the desire of any two of them, be entered on the journals.

16. The doors of each house and of committees of the whole shall be open, unless when the business shall be such as ought to be kept secret.

\* See Appendix for balance of this Section.

17. Neither house shall, without the consent of the other, adjourn for more than three days, nor to any other place than that in which the two houses shall be sitting.

18. The senators and representatives shall receive a compensation for their services to be ascertained by law, and paid out of the treasury of the commonwealth. They shall in all cases, except treason, felony, and breach or surety of the peace, be privileged from arrest during their attendance at the session of their respective houses, and in going to and returning from the same. And for any speech or debate in either house, they shall not be questioned in any other place.

19. No senator or representative shall, during the time for which he shall have been elected, be appointed to any civil office under this commonwealth which shall have been created, or the emoluments of which shall have been increased during such time; and no member of Congress or other person holding any office, (except of attorney-at-law and in the militia) under the United States or this commonwealth, shall be a member of either house during his continuance in Congress or in office.

20. When vacancies happen in either house, the speaker shall issue writs of election to fill such vacancies.

21. All bills for raising revenue shall originate in the House of Representatives, but the Senate may propose amendments as in other bills.

22. No money shall be drawn from the treasury but in consequence of appropriations made by law.

23. Every bill which shall have passed both houses shall be presented to the Governor. If he approve, he shall sign it, but if he shall not approve, he shall return it with his objections to the house in which it shall have originated, who shall enter the objections at large upon their journals, and proceed to reconsider it. If, after such reconsideration, two-thirds of that house shall agree to pass the bill, it shall be sent with the objections to the other house, by which likewise it shall be reconsidered, and if approved by two-thirds of that house, it shall be a law. But in such cases the votes of both houses shall be determined by yeas and nays, and the names of the persons voting for or against the bill shall be entered on the journals of each house respectively. If any bill shall not be returned by the Governor within ten days (Sundays excepted) after it shall have been presented to him, it shall be a law in like manner as if he had signed it, unless the General Assembly, by their adjournment, prevented its return, in which case it shall be a law, unless sent back within three days after their next meeting.

24. Every order, resolution or vote, to which the concurrence of both houses may be necessary (except on a question of adjournment) shall be presented to the Governor, and before it shall take effect, be approved by him, or being disapproved, shall be repassed by two-



thirds of both houses according to the rules and limitations prescribed in case of a bill.

25. No corporate body shall be hereafter created, renewed or extended with banking or discounting privileges, without six months' previous public notice of the intended application for the same in such manner as shall be prescribed by law. Nor shall any charter for the purposes aforesaid, be granted for a longer period than twenty years, and every such charter shall contain a clause reserving to the Legislature the power to alter, revoke or annul the same, whenever in their opinion it may be injurious to the citizens of the commonwealth, in such manner, however, that no injustice shall be done to the corporators. No law hereafter enacted, shall create, renew, or extend the charter of more than one corporation.\*

## ARTICLE II.

SEC. 1. The supreme executive power of this commonwealth shall be vested in a Governor.

2. The Governor shall be chosen on the second Tuesday of October, by the citizens of the commonwealth, at the places where they shall respectively vote for representatives. The returns of every election for Governor shall be sealed up and transmitted to the seat of government, directed to the speaker of the Senate, who shall open and publish them in the presence of the members of both houses of the Legislature. The person having the highest number of votes shall be Governor. But if two or more shall be equal and highest in votes, one of them shall be chosen Governor by the joint vote of the members of both houses. Contested elections shall be determined by a committee to be selected from both houses of the Legislature, and formed and regulated in such manner as shall be directed by law.

3. The Governor shall hold his office during three years from the third Tuesday of January next ensuing his election, and shall not be capable of holding it longer than six in any term of nine years.

4. He shall be at least thirty years of age, and have been a citizen and an inhabitant of this State seven years next before his election; unless he shall have been absent on the public business of the United States, or of this State.

5. No member of Congress or person holding any office under the United States, or this State, shall exercise the office of Governor.

6. The Governor shall at stated times receive for his services a compensation, which shall be neither increased nor diminished during the period for which he shall have been elected.

7. He shall be commander-in-chief of the army and navy of this commonwealth, and of the militia, except when they shall be called into the actual service of the United States.

8. He shall appoint a Secretary of the commonwealth during pleasure, and he shall nominate, and by and with the advice and

\* For Section 26, see Appendix—being fourth Amendment of 1857.

consent of the Senate, appoint all judicial officers of courts of record, unless otherwise provided for in this Constitution. He shall have power to fill all vacancies that may happen in such judicial offices during the recess of the Senate, by granting commissions which shall expire at the end of their next session: Provided, that in acting on executive nominations the Senate shall sit with open doors, and in confirming or rejecting the nominations of the Governor, the vote shall be taken by yeas and nays.

9. He shall have power to remit fines and forfeitures, and grant reprieves and pardons, except in cases of impeachment.

10. He may require information in writing, from the officers in the executive department, on any subject relating to the duties of their respective offices.

11. He shall, from time to time, give to the General Assembly information of the state of the commonwealth, and recommend to their consideration such measures as he shall judge expedient.

12. He may, on extraordinary occasions, convene the General Assembly; and in case of disagreement between the two houses, with respect to the time of adjournment, adjourn them to such time as he shall think proper, not exceeding four months.

13. He shall take care that the laws be faithfully executed.

14. In case of the death or resignation of the Governor, or his removal from office, the Speaker of the Senate shall exercise the office of governor, or until another governor shall be duly qualified; but in such case another Governor shall be chosen at the next annual election of representatives, unless such death, resignation, or removal, shall occur within three calendar months immediately preceding such next annual election, in which case a Governor shall be chosen at the second succeeding annual election of representatives. And if the trial of a contested election shall continue longer than until the third Monday of January next ensuing the election of Governor, the Governor of the last year, or the Speaker of the Senate who may be in the exercise of the executive authority, shall continue therein until the determination of such contested election, and until a Governor shall be duly qualified as aforesaid.

15. The Secretary of the commonwealth shall keep a fair register of all the official acts and proceedings of the Governor, and shall, when required, lay the same, and all papers, minutes and vouchers relative thereto, before either branch of the Legislature, and shall perform such other duties as shall be enjoined him by law.

### ARTICLE III.

SEC. 1. In elections by the citizens, every white freeman of the age of twenty-one years, having resided in this State one year, and in the election district where he offers to vote, ten days immediately preceding such election, and within two years paid a State or county tax, which shall have been assessed at least ten days before the elec-



tion, shall enjoy the rights of an elector. But a citizen of the United States, who had previously been a qualified voter of this State, and removed therefrom and returned, and who shall have resided in the election district, and paid taxes as aforesaid, shall be entitled to vote, after residing in the State six months: Provided, that white freemen, citizens of the United States, between the ages of twenty-one and twenty-two years, and having resided in the State one year, and in the election district ten days as aforesaid, shall be entitled to vote, although they shall not have paid taxes.

2. All elections shall be by ballot, except those by persons in their representative capacities, who shall vote *viva voce*.

3. Electors shall in all cases, except treason, felony, and breach of surety of the peace, be privileged from arrest during their attendance on elections, and in going to and returning from them.

#### ARTICLE IV.

SEC. 1. The House of Representatives shall have the sole power of impeaching.

2. All impeachments shall be tried by the Senate; when sitting for that purpose, the senators shall be upon oath or affirmation. No person shall be convicted, without the concurrence of two-thirds of the members present.

4. The Governor, and all other civil officers under this commonwealth, shall be liable to impeachment for any misdemeanor in office; but judgment, in such cases, shall not extend further than to removal from office and disqualification to hold any office of honor, trust or profit, under this commonwealth: the party, whether convicted or acquitted, shall, nevertheless, be liable to indictment, trial, judgment and punishment according to law.

#### ARTICLE V.

SEC. 1. The judicial power of this commonwealth shall be vested in a Supreme Court, in courts of oyer and terminer and general jail delivery, in a court of common pleas, orphans' court, register's court, and a court of quartersessions of the peace for each county; in justices of the peace, and in such other courts as the Legislature may, from time to time establish.

2. The judges of the Supreme Court, of the several courts of common pleas, and of such other courts of record as are or shall be established by law, shall be elected by the qualified electors of the commonwealth in the manner following, to wit: The judges of the Supreme Court, by the qualified electors of the commonwealth at large: The president judges of the several courts of common pleas, and of such other courts of record as are or shall be established by law, and all other judges required to be learned in the law, by the qualified electors of the respective districts over which they are to preside or act as judges: And the associate judges of the courts of

common pleas by the qualified electors of the counties respectively. The judges of the Supreme Court shall hold their offices for the term of fifteen years, if they shall so long behave themselves well, (subject to the allotment hereinafter provided for, subsequent to the first election.) The president judges of the several courts of common pleas, and of such other courts of record as are or shall be established by law, and all other judges required to be learned in the law, shall hold their offices for the term of ten years, if they shall so long behave themselves well.\*

3. Until otherwise directed by law, the courts of common pleas shall continue as at present established. Not more than five counties shall at any time be included in one judicial district organized for said courts.

4. The jurisdiction of the Supreme Court shall extend over the State; and the judges thereof shall, by virtue of their office, be justices of oyer and terminer and general jail delivery, in the several counties.

5. The judges of the court of common pleas, in each county, shall, by virtue of their offices, be justices of oyer and terminer and general jail delivery, for the trial of capital and other offenders therein; any two of said judges, the president being one, shall be a quorum; but they shall not hold a court of oyer and terminer, or jail delivery in any county, when the judges of the Supreme Court, or any of them shall be sitting in the same county. The party accused, as well as the commonwealth, may, under such regulations as shall be prescribed by law, remove the indictment and proceedings, or a transcript thereof, into the Supreme Court.

6. The Supreme Court, and the several courts of common pleas, shall, beside the powers heretofore usually exercised by them, have the powers of a Court of Chancery, so far as relates to the perpetuating of testimony, the obtaining of evidence from places not within the State, and the care of the persons and estates of those who are non compos mentis. And the Legislature shall vest in the said courts such other powers to grant relief in equity, as shall be found necessary; and may, from time to time, enlarge or diminish those powers or vest them in such other courts as they shall judge proper, for the due administration of justice.

7. The judges of the court of common pleas of each county, any two of whom shall be a quorum, shall compose the court of quarter sessions of the peace, and orphans' court thereof; and the register of wills, together with the said judges, or any two of them, shall compose the register's court of each county.

8. The judges of the courts of common pleas shall, within their respective counties, have like powers with the judges of the Supreme Court, to issue writs of certiorari to the justices of the peace, and to

\* For balance of this Section, see Appendix—it being Amendment of 1850.



cause their proceedings to be brought before them, and the like right and justice to be done.

9. The president of the court in each circuit within such circuit, and the judges of the court of common pleas within their respective counties, shall be justices of the peace, so far as relates to criminal matters.

10. A register's office, for the probate of wills and granting letters of administration, and an office for the recording of deeds, shall be kept in each county.

11. The style of all process shall be, "The commonwealth of Pennsylvania." All prosecutions shall be carried on in the name and by the authority of the commonwealth of Pennsylvania, and conclude, "against the peace and dignity of the same."

## ARTICLE VI.

SEC. 1. Sheriffs and coroners shall, at the times and places of election of representatives, be chosen by the citizens of each county. One person shall be chosen for each office, who shall be commissioned by the Governor. They shall hold their offices for three years, if they shall so long behave themselves well, and until a successor be duly qualified; but no person shall be twice chosen or appointed sheriff in any term of six years. Vacancies in either of the said offices shall be filled by an appointment, to be made by the Governor, to continue until the next general election, and until a successor shall be chosen and qualified as aforesaid.

2. The freemen of this commonwealth shall be armed, organized, and disciplined for its defense, when and in such manner as may be directed by law. Those who conscientiously scruple to bear arms, shall not be compelled to do so, but shall pay an equivalent for personal service.

3. Prothonotaries of the Supreme Court shall be appointed by the said court for the term of three years, if they so long behave themselves well. Prothonotaries and clerks of the several other courts, recorders of deeds, and registers of wills, shall at the times and places of election of representatives, be elected by the qualified electors of each county, or the districts over which the jurisdiction of said courts extends, and shall be commissioned by the Governor. They shall hold their offices for three years, if they shall so long behave themselves well, and until their successors shall be duly qualified. The Legislature shall provide by law the number of persons in each county who shall hold said offices, and how many and which of said offices shall be held by one person. Vacancies in any of the said offices shall be filled by appointments to be made by the Governor, to continue until the next general election, and until successors shall be elected and qualified as aforesaid.

4. Prothonotaries, clerks of the peace and orphans' courts, recorders of deeds, registers of wills, and sheriffs, shall keep their offices in

the county town of the county in which they, respectively, shall be officers, unless when the Governor shall, for special reasons, dispense therewith, for any term not exceeding five years after the county shall have been erected.

5. All commissions shall be in the name and by the authority of the commonwealth of Pennsylvania, and be sealed with the State seal, and signed by the Governor.

6. A State Treasurer shall be elected annually, by joint vote of both branches of the Legislature.

7. Justices of the peace or aldermen shall be elected in the several wards, boroughs, and townships, at the time of the election of constables by the qualified voters thereof, in such number as shall be directed by law, and shall be commissioned by the Governor for a term of five years. But no township, ward or borough, shall elect more than two justices of the peace or aldermen without the consent of a majority of the qualified electors within such township, ward or borough.

8. All officers whose election or appointment is not provided for in this Constitution, shall be elected or appointed as shall be directed by law. No person shall be appointed to any office within any county who shall not have been a citizen and an inhabitant therein one year next before his appointment, if the county shall have been so long erected; but if it shall not have been so long erected, then within the limits of the county or counties out of which it shall have been taken. No member of Congress from this State, or any person holding or exercising any office or appointment of trust or profit under the United States, shall at the same time hold or exercise any office in this State, to which a salary is, or fees or perquisites are, by law, annexed: and the Legislature may by law declare what State offices are incompatible. No member of the Senate or of the House of Representatives shall be appointed by the Governor to any office during the term for which he shall have been elected.

9. All officers for a term of years shall hold their offices for the terms respectively specified, only on the condition that they so long behave themselves well; and shall be removed on conviction of misbehavior in office or of any infamous crime.

10. Any person who shall, after the adoption of the amendments proposed by this Convention to the Constitution, fight a duel, or send a challenge for that purpose, or be aider or abettor in fighting a duel, shall be deprived of the right of holding any office of honor or profit in this State, and shall be punished otherwise in such manner as is, or may be prescribed by law; but the executive may remit the said offence and all its disqualifications.

## ARTICLE VII.

SEC. 1. The Legislature shall, as soon as conveniently may be, provide, by law, for the establishment of schools throughout the State, in such manner that the poor may be taught gratis.



2. The arts and sciences shall be promoted in one or more seminaries of learning.

3. The rights, privileges, immunities and estates of religious societies and corporate bodies, shall remain as if the Constitution of this State had not been altered or amended.

4. The Legislature shall not invest any corporate body or individual with the privilege of taking private property for public use, without requiring such corporation or individual to make compensation to the owners of said property, or give adequate security therefor, before such property shall be taken.

### ARTICLE VIII.

Members of the General Assembly and all officers, executive and judicial, shall be bound by oath or affirmation to support the Constitution of this commonwealth, and to perform the duties of their respective offices with fidelity.

### ARTICLE IX.

*That the general, great and essential principles of liberty and free government may be recognized and unalterably established, we declare :*

SEC. 1. That all men are born equally free and independent, and have certain inherent and indefeasible rights, among which are those of enjoying and defending life and liberty, of acquiring, possessing, and protecting property and reputation, and of pursuing their own happiness.

2. That all power is inherent in the people, and all free governments are founded on their authority, and instituted for their peace, safety, and happiness: For the advancement of those ends, they have, at all times, an inalienable and indefeasible right to alter, reform, or abolish their government, in such manner as they may think proper.

3. That all men have a natural and indefeasible right to worship Almighty God according to the dictates of their own consciences; that no man can, of right, be compelled to attend, erect or support any place of worship, or to maintain any ministry against his consent; that no human authority can, in any case whatever, control or interfere with the rights of conscience; and that no preference shall ever be given, by law, to any religious establishments or modes of worship.

4. That no person who acknowledges the being of a God and a future state of rewards and punishments, shall, on account of his religious sentiments, be disqualified to hold any office or place of trust or profit under this commonwealth.

5. That elections shall be free and equal.

6. That trial by jury shall be as heretofore, and the right thereof remain inviolate.

7. That the printing presses shall be free to every person, who undertakes to examine the proceedings of the Legislature or any branch of government: and no law shall ever be made to restrain the right thereof. The free communication of thoughts and opinions is one of the invaluable rights of man; and every citizen may freely speak, write and print on any subject, being responsible for the abuse of that liberty. In prosecutions for the publication of papers, investigating the official conduct of officers, or men in a public capacity, or where the matter published is proper for public information, the truth thereof may be given in evidence; and, in all indictments for libels, the jury shall have a right to determine the law and the facts, under the direction of the court, as in other cases.

8. That the people shall be secure in their persons, houses, papers and possessions, from unreasonable searches and seizures; and that no warrant to search any place, or to seize any person or things, shall issue without describing them as nearly as may be, nor without probable cause, supported by oath or affirmation.

9. That in all criminal prosecutions, the accused hath a right to be heard by himself and his counsel, to demand the nature and cause of the accusation against him, to meet the witnesses face to face, to have compulsory process for obtaining witnesses in his favor, and in prosecutions by indictment or information, a speedy trial by an impartial jury of the vicinage: that he cannot be compelled to give evidence against himself, nor can he be deprived of his life, liberty or property, unless by the judgment of his peers or the law of the land.

10. That no person shall, for any indictable offence, be proceeded against criminally by information; except in cases arising in the land or naval forces, or in the militia when in actual service in time of war or public danger; or by leave of the court for oppression and misdemeanor in office. No person shall for the same offence be twice put in jeopardy of life or limb; nor shall any man's property be taken, or applied to public use, without the consent of his representatives, and without just compensation being made.

11. That all courts shall be open, and every man for an injury done him in his lands, goods, person or reputation, shall have remedy by the due course of law, and right and justice administered without sale, denial or delay. Suits may be brought against the commonwealth in such manner, in such courts, and in such cases, as the Legislature may by law direct.

12. That no power of suspending laws shall be exercised, unless by the Legislature, or its authority.

13. That excessive bail shall not be required, nor excessive fines imposed, nor cruel punishments inflicted.

14. That all prisoners shall be bailable by sufficient sureties, unless for capital offences, when the proof is evident or presumption great: and the privilege of the writ of habeas corpus shall not be suspended, unless when, in cases of rebellion or invasion, the public safety may require it.



15. That no commission of oyer and terminer or jail delivery shall be issued.

16. That the person of a debtor, where there is not strong presumption of fraud, shall not be continued in prison after delivering up his estate for the benefit of his creditors in such manner as shall be prescribed by law.

17. That no *ex post facto* law, nor any law impairing contracts, shall be made.

18. That no person shall be attainted of treason or felony by the Legislature.

19. That no attainder shall work corruption of blood; nor, except during the life of the offender, forfeiture of estate to the common wealth: that the estates of such persons as shall destroy their own lives, shall descend or vest as in case of natural death; and if any person shall be killed by casualty, there shall be no forfeiture by reason thereof.

20. That the citizens have a right, in a peaceable manner, to assemble together for their common good, and to apply to those invested with the powers of government for redress of grievances, or other proper purposes, by petition, redress, or remonstrance.

21. That the right of the citizens to bear arms, in defense of themselves and the State, shall not be questioned.

22. That no standing army shall, in time of peace, be kept up, without the consent of the Legislature; and the military shall, in all cases, and at all times, be in strict subordination to the civil power.

23. That no soldier shall, in time of peace, be quartered in any house, without the consent of the owner, nor in time of war, but in a manner to be prescribed by law.

24. That the Legislature shall not grant any title of nobility or hereditary distinction, nor create any office the appointment to which shall be for a longer term than during good behaviour.

25. That emigration from the State shall not be prohibited.

26. To guard against transgressions of the high powers which we have delegated, we declare, that every thing in this article is excepted out of the general powers of government, and shall forever remain inviolate.

## ARTICLE X.

Any amendment or amendments to this Constitution may be proposed in the Senate or House of Representatives, and if the same shall be agreed to by a majority of the members elected to each house, such proposed amendment or amendments shall be entered on their journals, with the yeas and nays taken thereon, and the Secretary of the commonwealth shall cause the same to be published three months before the next election, in at least one newspaper in every county in which a newspaper shall be published; and if in the Legislature next afterwards chosen, such proposed amendment or amendments shall be agreed to by a majority of the members elected to

each house, the Secretary of the commonwealth shall cause the same again to be published in the manner aforesaid, and such proposed amendment or amendments shall be submitted to the people in such manner, and at such time, at least three months after being so agreed to by the two houses, as the Legislature shall prescribe; and if the people shall approve and ratify such amendment or amendments by a majority of the qualified voters of this State voting thereon, such amendment or amendments shall become a part of the Constitution, but no amendment or amendments shall be submitted to the people oftener than once in five years: provided, that if more than one amendment be submitted, they shall be submitted in such manner and form, that the people may vote for or against each amendment separately and distinctly.

## ARTICLE XI.\*

### *Of Public Debts.*

SEC. 1. The State may contract debts, to supply casual deficits or failures in revenues, or to meet expenses not otherwise provided for; but the aggregate amount of such debts direct and contingent, whether contracted by virtue of one or more acts of the General Assembly, or at different periods of time, shall never exceed seven hundred and fifty thousand dollars, and the money arising from the creation of such debts, shall be applied to the purpose for which it was obtained, or to repay the debts so contracted, and to no other purpose whatever.

2. In addition to the above limited power, the State may contract debts to repel invasion, suppress insurrection, defend the State in war, or to redeem the present outstanding indebtedness of the State; but the money arising from the contracting of such debts, shall be applied to the purpose for which it was raised, or to repay such debts, and to no other purpose whatever.

3. Except the debts above specified, in sections one and two of this article, no debt whatever shall be created by, or on behalf of the State.

4. To provide for the payment of the present debt, and any additional debt contracted as aforesaid, the Legislature shall, at its first session, after the adoption of this amendment, create a sinking fund, which shall be sufficient to pay the accruing interest on such debt, and annually to reduce the principal thereof by a sum not less than two hundred and fifty thousand dollars; which sinking fund shall consist of the net annual income of the public works, from time to time owned by the State, or the proceeds of the sale of the same, or any part thereof, and of the income or proceeds of sale of stocks owned by the State, together with other funds, or resources, that may be designated by law. The said sinking fund may be increased,

\* First amendment of 1857.



from time to time, by assigning to it any part of the taxes, or other revenues of the State, not required for the ordinary and current expenses of government, and unless in case of war, invasion, or insurrection, no part of the said sinking fund shall be used or applied otherwise than in extinguishment of the public debt, until the amount of such debt is reduced below the sum of five millions of dollars.

5. The credit of the commonwealth shall not in any manner, or event, be pledged, or loaned to any individual, company, corporation, or association; nor shall the commonwealth hereafter become a joint owner, or stockholder in any company, association, or corporation.\*

### SCHEDULE.

*That no inconvenience may arise from the alterations and amendments in the Constitution of this Commonwealth, and in order to carry the same into complete operation, it is hereby declared and ordained, that :*

1. All laws of this Commonwealth in force at the time when the said alterations and amendments in the said Constitution shall take effect, and not inconsistent therewith, and all rights, prosecutions, actions, claims, and contracts, as well of individuals as of bodies corporate, shall continue as if the said alterations and amendments had not been made.

2. The alterations and amendments in the said Constitution shall take effect from the first day of January, eighteen hundred and thirty-nine.

3. The clauses, sections, and articles of the said Constitution which remain unaltered, shall continue to be construed and have effect as if the said Constitution had not been amended.

4. The General Assembly which shall convene in December, eighteen hundred and thirty-eight, shall continue its session, as heretofore, notwithstanding the provision in the eleventh section of the first article, and shall at all times be regarded as the first General Assembly under the amended Constitution.

5. The Governor, who shall be elected in October, eighteen hundred and thirty-eight, shall be inaugurated on the third Tuesday in January, eighteen hundred and thirty-nine; to which time the present executive term is extended.

6. The commissions of the judges of the Supreme Court who may be in office on the first day of January next, shall expire in the following manner:—The commission which bears the earliest date shall expire on the first day of January, anno domini one thousand eight hundred and forty-two: the commission next dated shall expire on the first day of January, anno domini one thousand eight hundred and forty-five: the commission next dated shall expire on the first day of January, anno domini one thousand eight hundred

\* For Sections 6, 7, Art. XI.; and Art. XII. see Appendix.

and forty-eight: the commission next dated shall expire on the first day of January, anno domini one thousand eight hundred and fifty-one: and the commission last last dated shall expire on the first day of January, anno domini one thousand eight hundred and fifty-four.

7. The commissions of the president judges of the several judicial districts, and of the associate law judges of the first judicial district, shall expire as follows:—The commissions of one-half of those who shall have held their offices ten years or more, at the adoption of the amendments to the Constitution, shall expire on the twenty-seventh day of February, one thousand eight hundred and thirty-nine: the commissions of the other half of those who shall have held their offices ten years or more, at the adoption of the amendments to the Constitution, shall expire on the twenty-seventh day of February, one thousand hundred and forty-two: the first half to embrace those whose commissions shall bear the oldest date. The commissions of all the remaining judges who shall not have held their offices for ten years at the adoption of the amendments to the Constitution, shall expire on the twenty-seventh day of February next after the end of ten years from the date of their commissions.

8. The recorders of the several mayors' courts and other criminal courts in this Commonwealth, shall be appointed for the same time and in the same manner as the president judges of the several judicial districts; of those now in office, the commission oldest in date shall expire on the twenty-seventh day of February, one thousand eight hundred and forty-one, and the others every two years thereafter according to their respective dates: those oldest in date expiring first.

9. The Legislature, at its first session under the amended Constitution, shall divide the other associate judges of the State into four classes. The commissions of those of the first class shall expire on the twenty-seventh day of February, eighteen hundred and forty: of those of the second class on the twenty-seventh day of February, eighteen hundred and forty one: of those of the third class on the twenty-seventh day of February, eighteen hundred and forty-two: and those of the fourth class on the twenty-seventh day of February, eighteen hundred and forty-three. The said classes, from the first to the fourth, shall be arranged according to the seniority of the commissions of the several judges.

10. Prothonotaries, clerks of the several courts, (except of the Supreme Court,) recorders of deeds, and registers of wills, shall be first elected under the amended Constitution, at the election of representatives, in the year eighteen hundred and thirty-nine, in such manner as may be prescribed by law.

11. The appointing power shall remain as heretofore, and all officers in the appointment of the executive department shall continue in the exercise of the duties of their respective offices until the Legislature shall pass such laws as may be required by the eighth section of the sixth article of the amended Constitution, and until appointments shall be made under such laws; unless their commissions shall be superseded by new appointments, or shall sooner expire by their own limitations, or the said offices shall become vacant by death or resignation, and such laws shall be enacted by the first Legislature under the amended Constitution.

12. The first election for aldermen and justices of the peace shall be held in the year eighteen hundred and forty, at the time fixed for the election of constables. The Legislature at its first session under the amended Constitution, shall provide for the said election, and for subsequent similar elections. The aldermen and justices of the peace now in commission, or who may in the interim be appointed, shall continue to discharge the duties of their respective offices until fifteen days after the day which shall be fixed by law for the issuing of new commissions, at the expiration of which time their commissions shall expire.



## APPENDIX TO CONSTITUTION OF PENNSYLVANIA.

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*Article First. Section 7th. [Third Amendment of 1857,] should continue*

The city of Philadelphia shall be divided into single senatorial districts of contiguous territory, as nearly equal in taxable population as possible; but no ward shall be divided in the formation thereof.\*

*Article First. Section 26. [An additional Section, being Fourth Amendment of 1857.]*

SEC. 26. The Legislature shall have the power to alter, revoke, or annul, any charter of incorporation hereafter conferred by or under any special or general law, whenever, in their opinion, it may be injurious to the citizens of the commonwealth; in such manner, however, that no injustice shall be done to the corporators.

*Article Fifth. Section 2d. [Amendment of 1850.] The remainder of this Section reads as follows:*

The associate judges of the courts of common pleas shall hold their offices for the term of five years, if they shall so long behave themselves well: all of whom shall be commissioned by the Governor, but for any reasonable cause which shall not be sufficient grounds of impeachment, the Governor shall remove any of them on the address of two-thirds of each branch of the Legislature. The first election shall take place at the general election of this commonwealth next after the adoption of this amendment, and the commissions of all the judges who may be then in office shall expire on the first Monday of December following, when the terms of the new judges shall commence. The persons who shall then be elected judges of the Supreme Court shall hold their offices as follows: one of them for three years, one for six years, one for nine years, one for twelve years, and one for fifteen years; the term of each to be decided by lot by said judges, as soon after the election as convenient, and the result certified by them to the Governor, that the commissions may be issued in accordance thereto. The judge whose com-

\* From third Amendment of 1857; which further provides with reference to Sections 4 and 7 above, as follows:

"The Legislature, at its first session, after the adoption of this amendment, shall divide the city of Philadelphia into senatorial and representative districts, in the manner above provided; such districts to remain unchanged until the apportionment in the year one thousand eight hundred and sixty-four."

mission will first expire shall be chief justice during his term, and thereafter each judge whose commission shall first expire shall in turn be the chief justice, and if two or more commissions shall expire on the same day, the judges holding them shall decide by lot which shall be the chief justice. Any vacancies happening by death, resignation, or otherwise, in any of the said courts shall be filled by appointment by the Governor, to continue till the first Monday of December succeeding the next general election. The judges of the Supreme Court and the presidents of the several courts of common pleas shall, at stated times receive for their services an adequate compensation, to be fixed by law, which shall not be diminished during their continuance in office, but they shall receive no fees or perquisites of office, nor hold any other office of profit under this commonwealth, or under the government of the United States, or any other State of this Union. The judges of the Supreme Court, during their continuance in office, shall reside within this commonwealth, and the other judges during their continuance in office shall reside within the district or county for which they were respectively elected.

*Article Eleventh. Sections 6th and 7th. [First Amendment of 1857.]*

6. The commonwealth shall not assume the debt, or any part thereof, of any county, city, borough, or township; or of any corporation or association; unless such debt shall have been contracted to enable the State to repel invasion, suppress domestic insurrection, defend itself in time of war, or to assist the State in the discharge of any portion of its present indebtedness.

7. The Legislature shall not authorize any county, city, borough, township, or incorporated district, by virtue of a vote of its citizens, or otherwise, to become a stockholder in any company, association, or corporation; or to obtain money for, or loan its credit to any corporation, association, institution, or party.

*Article Twelfth. [Second Amendment of 1857.]*

## ARTICLE XII.

### *Of New Counties.*

No county shall be divided by a line cutting off over one-tenth of its population, (either to form a new county or otherwise,) without the express assent of such county, by a vote of the electors thereof; nor shall any new county be established, containing less than four hundred square miles.





## DELAWARE.



DELAWARE, next to Rhode Island, is the smallest State in the union. It was first settled in 1627, by the Swedes and Fins. They landed at Cape Henlopen, and on account of its beauty called it "Paradise Point." They organized a government, and built several forts for their protection. But they were too weak to sustain themselves against the Dutch, who had commenced making inroads upon them. In 1655 the Dutch took the territory by conquest. In 1664 the English conquered the Dutch, and they were under the jurisdiction of New York until 1682. About this time William Penn obtained a grant of Delaware from the Duke of York, and it was for many years under the government of Pennsylvania.

It adopted its first Constitution in 1776, and its present one in 1831.

Area 2,120 sq. m. Population, 91,535.

### CONSTITUTION.\*

*We, the People, hereby ordain and establish this Constitution of government for the State of Delaware.*

Through divine goodness all men have, by nature, the rights of worshiping and serving their Creator according to the dictates of their consciences, of enjoying and defending life and liberty, of acquiring and protecting reputation and property, and, in general, of attaining objects suitable to their condition, without injury by one to another; and as these rights are essential to their welfare, for the due exercise thereof, power is inherent in them; and therefore all just authority in the institutions of political society is

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\* The amendments are in brackets.



derived from the people, and established with their consent, to advance their happiness: And they may for this end, as circumstances require, from time to time, alter their Constitution of government.

## ARTICLE I.

SEC. 1. Although it is the duty of all men frequently to assemble together for the public worship of the Author of the Universe, and piety and morality, on which the prosperity of communities depends, are thereby promoted; yet no man shall, or ought to be compelled to attend any religious worship, to contribute to the erection or support of any place of worship, or to the maintenance of any ministry, against his own free will and consent: and no power shall or ought to be vested in or assumed by any magistrate, that shall in any case interfere with, or in any manner control the rights of conscience, in the free exercise of religious worship: nor shall a preference be given by law to any religious societies, denomination or modes of worship.

2. No religious test shall be required as a qualification to any office, or public trust, under this State.

3. All elections shall be free and equal.

4. Trial by jury, shall be as heretofore.

5. The press shall be free to every citizen who undertakes to examine the official conduct of men acting in a public capacity; and any citizen may print on any such subject, being responsible for the abuse of that liberty. In prosecutions for publications investing the proceedings of officers, or where the matter published is proper for public information, the truth thereof may be given in evidence; and in all indictments for libels, the jury may determine the facts and the law, as in other cases.

6. The people shall be secure in their persons, houses, papers, and possessions, from unreasonable searches and seizures: and no warrant to search any place, or to seize any person or things, shall issue without describing them as particularly as may be, nor then, unless there be probable cause supported by oath or affirmation.

7. In all criminal prosecutions, the accused hath a right to be heard by himself and his counsel, to be plainly and fully informed of the nature and cause of the accusation against him, to meet the witnesses in their examination face to face, to have compulsory process in due time, on application by himself, his friends, or counsel, for obtaining witnesses in his favor, and a speedy and public trial by an impartial jury: he shall not be compelled to give evidence against himself: nor shall he be deprived of life, liberty, or property, unless by the judgment of his peers or the law of the land.

8. No person shall for any indictable offence be proceeded against criminally by information, except in cases arising in the land and naval forces, or in the militia when in actual service in time of war or public danger, and no person shall be for the same offence twice put

in jeopardy of life or limb; nor shall any man's property be taken or applied to public use without the consent of his representatives, and without compensation being made.

9. All courts shall be open: and every man for an injury done him in his reputation, person, movable or immovable possessions, shall have remedy by the due course of law, and justice administered according to the very right of the cause and the law of the land, without sale, denial, or unreasonable delay or expense; and every action shall be tried in the county in which it shall be commenced, unless when the judges of the court in which the cause is to be tried, shall determine that an impartial trial therefor cannot be had in that county. Suits may be brought against the State, according to such regulations as shall be made by law.

10. No power of suspending laws shall be exercised, but by authority of the Legislature.

11. Excessive bail shall not be required, nor excessive fines imposed, nor cruel punishment inflicted: and in the construction of jails, a proper regard shall be had to the health of prisoners.

12. All prisoners shall be bailable by sufficient sureties, unless for capital offences, when the proof is positive or the presumption great: and when persons are confined on accusation for such offences, their friends and counsel may at proper seasons have access to them.

13. The privilege of the writ of *habeas corpus* shall not be suspended unless when in cases of rebellion or invasion, the public safety may require it.

14. No commission of oyer and terminer or jail delivery shall be issued.

15. No attainder shall work corruption of blood, nor, except during the life of the offender, forfeiture of estate. The estates of those who destroy their own lives shall descend or vest as in case of natural death; and if any person be killed by accident, no forfeiture shall be thereby incurred.

16. Although disobedience to laws by a part of the people, upon suggestions of impolicy or injustice in them, tends by immediate effect and the influence of example, not only to endanger the public welfare and safety, but also in governments of a republican form, contravenes the social principles of such governments founded on common consent for common good; yet the citizens have a right in an orderly manner to meet together, and to apply to persons intrusted with the powers of government, for redress of grievances or other proper purposes, by petition, remonstrance, or address.

17. No standing army shall be kept up without the consent of the Legislature: and the military shall, in all cases and at all times, be in strict subordination to the civil power.

18. No soldier shall in time of peace be quartered in any house without the consent of the owner; nor in time of war, but by a civil magistrate, in a manner to be prescribed by law.



19. No hereditary distinction shall be granted, nor any office created or exercised, the appointments to which shall be for a longer term than during good behavior; and no person holding any office under this State, shall accept of any office or title of any kind whatever, from any King, Prince or foreign State.

We declare, that every thing in this article is reserved out of the general powers of government hereinafter mentioned.

## ARTICLE II.

SEC. 1. The legislative power of this State shall be vested in a General Assembly, which shall consist of a Senate and House of Representatives.

2. The representatives shall be chosen [for two years] by the citizens residing in the several counties.

No person shall be a representative who shall not have attained the age of twenty-four years, and have been a citizen and inhabitant of the State three years next preceding the first meeting of the Legislature after his election, and the last year of that term an inhabitant of the county in which he shall be chosen, unless he shall have been absent on the public business of the United States, or of this State.

There shall be seven representatives chosen in each county, until a greater number of representatives shall by the General Assembly be judged necessary; and then, two-thirds of each branch of the Legislature concurring, they may by law make provision for increasing their number.

3. The senators shall be chosen for [four] years by the citizens residing in the several counties.

No person shall be a senator who shall not have attained to the age of twenty-seven years, and have in the county in which he shall be chosen, a freehold estate in two hundred acres of land, or an estate in real or personal property, or in either, of the value of one thousand pounds at least, and have been a citizen and inhabitant of the State three years next preceding the first meeting of the Legislature after his election, and the last year of that term an inhabitant of the county in which he shall be chosen, unless he shall have been absent on the public business of the United States or of this State.

There shall be three senators chosen in each county. When a greater number of senators shall by the General Assembly be judged necessary, two-thirds of each branch concurring, they may by law make provision for increasing their number; but the number of senators shall never be greater than one-half, nor less than one-third of the number of representatives.

[If the office of representative, or the office of senator, become vacant before the regular expiration of the term thereof, a representative or a senator shall be elected to fill such vacancy, and shall hold the office for the residue of said term.

When there is a vacancy in either house of the General Assembly.

and the General Assembly is not in session, the Governor shall have power to issue a writ of election to fill such vacancy; which writ shall be executed as a writ issued by a speaker of either house in case of vacancy.]

4. The General Assembly shall meet on the first Tuesday of January, biennially, unless sooner convened by the Governor.

[The first meeting of the General Assembly, under this amended Constitution, shall be on the first Tuesday of January, in the year of our Lord, one thousand eight hundred and thirty-three, which shall be the commencement of the biennial sessions.]

5. Each house shall choose its speaker and other officers; and also each house, whose speaker shall exercise the office of Governor, may choose a speaker *pro tempore*.

6. Each house shall judge of the elections, returns, and qualifications of its own members; and a majority of each shall constitute a quorum to do business; but a smaller number may adjourn from day to day, and shall be authorized to compel the attendance of absent members, in such manner, and under such penalties as shall be deemed expedient.

7. Each house may determine the rules of its proceedings, punish any of its members for disorderly behavior, and with the concurrence of two-thirds, expel a member, and shall have all other powers necessary for a branch of the Legislature of a free and independent State.

8. Each house shall keep a journal of its proceedings, and publish them immediately after every session, except such parts as may require secrecy, and the yeas and nays of the members on any question shall, at the desire of any member, be entered on the journal.

9. The doors of each house, and of committees of the whole, shall be open, unless when the business is such as ought to be kept secret.

10. Neither house shall, without the consent of the other, adjourn for more than three days, nor to any other place than that in which the two houses shall be sitting.

11. The senators and representatives shall receive a compensation for their services, to be ascertained by law, and paid out of the treasury of the State; but no law varying the compensation shall take effect, until an election of the representatives shall have intervened. They shall in all cases, except treason, felony, or breach of the peace, be privileged from arrest during their attendance at the sessions of their respective houses, and in going to and returning from the same; and for any speech or debate in either house, they shall not be questioned in any other place.

12. No senator or representative shall, during the time for which he shall have been elected, be appointed to any civil office under this State, which shall have been created, or the emoluments of which shall have been increased during such time. No person concerned in any army or navy contracts, nor member of Congress, nor any person holding any office under this State or the United States, except the Attorney-General, officers usually appointed by the courts



of justice, respectively, attorneys-at-law, and officers in the militia, holding no disqualifying office, shall during his continuance in Congress or in office, be a senator or representative.

13. When vacancies happen in either house, writs of election shall be issued by the speakers respectively, or in cases of necessity, in such other manner as shall be provided by law; and the persons thereupon chosen shall hold their seats as long as those in whose stead they are elected might have done, if such vacancies had not happened.

14. All bills for raising revenue shall originate in the House of Representatives; but the Senate may propose alterations as on other bills; and no bill, from the operations of which, when passed into a law, revenue may incidentally arise, shall be accounted a bill for raising revenue; nor shall any matter or clause whatever, not immediately relating to and necessary for raising revenue, be in any manner blended with or annexed to a bill for raising revenue.

15. No money shall be drawn from the treasury but in consequence of appropriations made by law; and a regular statement and account of the receipts and expenditures of all public money shall be published *at least once in every two years*.

16. [The State Treasurer shall be appointed biennially by the House of Representatives, with the concurrence of the Senate. In case of vacancy in the office of State Treasurer in the recess of the General Assembly, either through omission of the General Assembly to appoint, or by the death, removal out of the State, resignation, or inability of the State Treasurer, or his failure to give security, the Governor shall fill the vacancy by appointment, to continue until the next meeting of the General Assembly. The State Treasurer shall settle his accounts annually with the General Assembly, or a committee thereof, which shall be appointed at every biennial session. No person who hath served in the office of State Treasurer shall be eligible to a seat in either house of the General Assembly until he shall have made a final settlement of his accounts as treasurer, and discharged the balance, if any due thereon.]

17. No act of incorporation, except for the renewal of existing corporations, shall be hereafter enacted without the concurrence of two-thirds of each branch of the Legislature, and with a reserved power of revocation by the Legislature; and no act of incorporation which may be hereafter enacted shall continue in force for a longer period than twenty years, without the re-enactment of the Legislature, unless it be an incorporation for public improvement.]

### ARTICLE III.

SEC. 1. The supreme executive powers of the State shall be vested in a Governor.

2. The Governor shall be chosen by the citizens of the State.

The returns of every election for Governor shall be sealed up, and

immediately delivered by the returning officers of the several counties to the Speaker of the Senate, [or in case of the vacancy of the office of the Speaker of the Senate, or his absence from the State, to the Secretary of State,] who shall keep the same until a Speaker of the Senate shall be appointed; to whom they shall be immediately delivered after his appointment, who shall open and publish the same in the presence of the members of both houses of the Legislature. Duplicates of the said returns shall also be immediately lodged with the prothonotary of each county. The person having the highest number of votes shall be Governor: but if two or more shall be equal in the highest number of votes, the members of the two houses shall, by joint ballot, choose one of them to be Governor; and if, upon such ballot, two or more of them shall still be equal and highest in votes, the Speaker of the Senate shall have an additional casting vote.

Contested elections of a Governor shall be determined by a joint committee, consisting of one-third of all the members of each branch of the Legislature, to be selected by ballot of the house respectively: every person of the committee shall take an oath or affirmation, that in determining the said election, he will faithfully discharge the trust reposed in him: and the committee shall always sit with open doors.

3. The Governor shall hold his office during [four] years from the third Tuesday in January next ensuing his election, and shall not be [eligible a second time to said office.]

4. He shall be at least thirty years of age, and have been a citizen and inhabitant of the United States twelve years next before the first meeting of the Legislature after his election, and the last six of that term an inhabitant of this State, unless he shall have been absent on the public business of the United States or of this State.

5. No member of Congress, nor person holding any office under the United States, or this State, shall exercise the office of Governor.

6. The Governor shall, at stated times, receive for his services an adequate salary, to be fixed by law, which shall be neither increased nor diminished during the period for which he shall have been elected.

7. He shall be commander-in-chief of the army and navy of the State, and of the militia; except when they shall be called into the service of the United States.

8. He shall appoint all officers whose offices are established by this Constitution, or shall be established by law, and whose appointments are not herein otherwise provided for; but no person shall be appointed to an office within a county, who shall not have a right to vote for representatives, and have been an inhabitant therein one year next before his appointment, nor hold the office longer than he continues to reside in the county. No member of



Congress, nor any person holding or exercising any office under the United States, shall at the same time hold or exercise the office of judge, treasurer, attorney-general, secretary, prothonotary, register for the probate of wills and granting letters of administration, recorder, sheriff, or any office under this State, with a salary by law annexed to it, or any other office which the Legislature shall declare incompatible with offices or appointments under the United States. No person shall hold more than one of the following offices at the same time, to wit: treasurer, attorney-general, prothonotary, register, or sheriff. All commissions shall be in the name of the State, shall be sealed with the great seal, and be signed and tested by the Governor.

9. He shall have power to remit fines and forfeitures, and to grant reprieves and pardons, except in cases of impeachment. [He shall set forth in writing, fully, the grounds of all reprieves, pardons, and remissions, to be entered in the register of his official acts, and laid before the General Assembly at their next session.]

10. He may require information in writing from the officers in the executive department, upon any subject relating to the duties of their respective offices.

11. He shall from time to time give to the General Assembly information of affairs concerning the State, and recommend to their consideration such measures as he shall judge expedient.

12. He may, on extraordinary occasions, convene the General Assembly; and in case of disagreement between the two houses with respect to the time of adjournment, adjourn them to such time as he shall think proper, not exceeding three months.

13. He shall take care that the laws be faithfully executed.

14. [Upon any vacancy happening in the office of Governor by his death, removal, resignation, or inability, the Speaker of the Senate shall exercise the office until a Governor elected by the people shall be duly qualified. If there be no Speaker of the Senate, or upon a further vacancy happening in the office by his death, removal, resignation, or inability, the Speaker of the House of Representatives shall exercise the office until a Governor elected by the people shall be duly qualified. If the person elected Governor shall die, or become disqualified, before the commencement of his term of office, or shall refuse to take the same, the person holding the office shall continue to exercise it, until a Governor shall be elected and duly qualified. If upon a vacancy happening in the office of Governor, there be no other person who can exercise said office within the provisions of the Constitution, the Secretary of State shall exercise the same until the next meeting of the General Assembly, who shall immediately proceed to elect by joint ballot of both houses, a person to exercise the office until a Governor, elected by the people, shall be duly qualified. If a vacancy occur in the office of Governor, or if the Governor elect die, or become disqualified, before the commencement of his term, or refuse to take the office, an elec-

tion for Governor shall be held at the next general election, unless the vacancy happen within six days next preceding the election, exclusive of the day of the happening of the vacancy and the day of the election: in that case, if an election for Governor would not have been held at said election, without the happening of such vacancy, no election for Governor shall be held at said election in consequence of such vacancy.] If the trial of a contested election shall continue longer than until the third Tuesday of January next ensuing the election of a Governor, the Governor of the last year, or the Speaker of the Senate, or of the House of Representatives, who may then be in the exercise of the executive authority, shall continue therein until a determination of such contested election. The Governor shall not be removed from his office for inability, but with the concurrence of two-thirds of all the members of each branch of the Legislature.

15. A Secretary shall be appointed and commissioned during the Governor's continuance in office, if he shall so long behave himself well. He shall keep a fair register of all the official acts and proceedings of the Governor, and shall, when required by either branch of the Legislature, lay the same, and all papers, minutes, and vouchers, relative thereto, before them, and shall perform such other duties as shall be enjoined him by law. He shall have a compensation for his services, to be fixed by law.

#### ARTICLE IV.

SEC. 1. [All elections for Governor, senators, representatives, sheriffs, and coroners, shall be held on the second Tuesday of November, and be by ballot: and in such elections every free white male citizen of the age of twenty-two years or upwards, having resided in the State one year next before the election, and the last month thereof in the county where he offers to vote, and having within two years next before the election paid a county tax, which shall have been assessed at least six months before the election, shall enjoy the right of an elector; and every free white male citizen of the age of twenty-one years, and under the age of twenty-two years, having resided as aforesaid, shall be entitled to vote without payment of any tax: provided, that no person in the military, naval, or marine service of the United States shall be considered as acquiring a residence in this State, by being stationed in any garrison, barrack, or military or naval place or station within this State; and no idiot, or insane person, or pauper, or person convicted of a crime deemed by law felony, shall enjoy the right of an elector; and that the Legislature may impose the forfeiture of the right of suffrage as a punishment for crime.]

2. Electors shall in all cases, except treason, felony, or breach of the peace, be privileged from an arrest during their attendance at elections, and in going to and returning from them.



## ARTICLE V.

SEC. 1. The House of Representatives shall have the sole power of impeaching: but two-thirds of all the members must concur in an impeachment. All impeachments shall be tried by the Senate; and when sitting for that purpose, the senators shall be upon oath or affirmation to do justice according to the evidence. No person shall be convicted without the concurrence of two-thirds of all the senators.

2. The Governor, and all other civil officers under this State, shall be liable to impeachment for treason, bribery, or any high crime or misdemeanor in office. Judgment in such cases shall not extend further than to removal from office, and disqualification to hold any office of honor, trust, or profit under this State; but the party convicted shall nevertheless be subject to indictment, trial, judgment, and punishment according to law.

3. Treason against this State shall consist only in levying war against it, or in adhering to the enemies of the Government, giving them aid and comfort. No person shall be convicted of treason, unless on the testimony of two witnesses to the same overt act, or on confession in open court.

## ARTICLE VI.

SEC. 1. [The judicial power of this State shall be vested in a Court of Errors and Appeals, a Superior Court, a Court of Chancery, an Orphan's Court, a Court of Oyer and Terminer, a Court of General Sessions of the peace and jail delivery, a Register's Court, justices of the peace, and such other courts as the General Assembly, with the concurrence of two-thirds of all the members of both houses shall from time to time establish.]

2. [To compose the said courts there shall be five judges in the State. One of them shall be Chancellor of the State: he shall also be President of the Orphan's Court: he may be appointed in any part of the State. The other four judges shall compose the Superior Court, the Court of Oyer and Terminer, and the Court of General Sessions of the peace and jail delivery, as hereinafter prescribed. One of them shall be Chief-Justice of the State, and may be appointed in any part of it. The other three judges shall be associate judges, and one of them shall reside in each county.]

3. [The Superior Court shall consist of the Chief-Justice and two associate judges. The Chief-Justice shall preside in every county, and in his absence the senior associate judge sitting in the county shall preside. No associate judge shall sit in the county in which he resides. Two of the said judges shall constitute a quorum. One may open and adjourn the Court, and make all rules necessary for the expediting of business.

This Court shall have jurisdiction of all causes of a civil nature, real, personal, and mixed, at common law, and all other the jurisdic-

tion and powers vested by the laws of this State in the Supreme Court or Court of Common Pleas.]

4. [The Court of General Sessions of the Peace and Jail Delivery shall be composed in each county of the same judges and in the same manner as the Superior Court. Two shall constitute a quorum. One may open and adjourn the Court. This Court shall have all the jurisdiction and powers vested by the laws of this State in the Court of General Quarter Sessions of the Peace and Jail Delivery.]

5. [The Chancery shall hold the Court of Chancery. This Court shall have all the powers vested by the laws of this State in the Court of Chancery.]

6. [The Court of Oyer and Terminer shall consist of all the judges except the Chancery. Three of the said judges shall constitute a quorum. One may open and adjourn the Court. This Court shall exercise the jurisdiction now vested in the courts of Oyer and Terminer and General Jail Delivery by the laws of this State. In the absence of the Chief-Justice the senior associate present shall preside.]

7. [The Court of Errors and Appeals shall have jurisdiction to issue writs of error to the Superior Court, and to receive appeals from the Court of Chancery, and to determine finally all matters in error in the judgments and proceedings of said Superior Court, and all matters of appeal in the interlocutory or final decrees and proceedings in chancery. The Court of Errors and appeals upon a writ of error to the Superior Court shall consist of three judges at least: that is to say, the Chancery, who shall preside, the associate judge who could not on account of his residence sit in the cause below, and one of the judges who did sit in the said cause. The judges of the Superior Court to whom it appertains to hold the Superior Court in each county shall sit alternately in the Court of Errors and Appeals in cases in error brought from the Superior Court held in such county, according to the following rotation: that is to say, if the judgment below be rendered in the Court in New Castle county at the first term of the said Court there, the Chief-Justice shall sit; if at the second term of said Court there, the associate judge for Kent county shall sit; and if at the third term of said Court there, the associate judge for Sussex county shall sit. If the judgment below be rendered in the Court in Kent county at the first term of said Court there, the associate judge for Sussex county shall sit; if at the second term of the said Court there, the associate judge for New Castle county shall sit; and if at the third term of the Court there, the Chief-Justice shall sit. If the judgment below be rendered in the Court in Sussex county at the first term of said Court there, the associate judge for New Castle county shall sit; if at the second term of said Court there, the Chief-justice shall sit, and if at the third term of said Court there, the associate judge for Kent county shall sit; and so from term to term, in every succeeding rotation, the judges beginning and following each other in the same order. But if in any case in the



Court of Errors and Appeals, the judge who sat in the cause below, and ought according to this provision to sit in the Court of Errors and Appeals, be absent, unable, or disqualified, then either of the other judges who sat in the cause below may sit; and the Court shall have power to prevent any inconvenience or delay from observing the rotation above described, by making an order or regulation for either of the judges who sat in the cause below, to sit in such cause in the Court of Errors and Appeals. If a judge did not sit in the cause below, he shall sit in the said cause in the Court of Errors and Appeals, unless there be a legal exception to him; but the Court, if there be three judges present, may proceed in his absence.

Whenever the Superior Court consider that a question of law ought to be decided before all the judges, they shall have power, upon the application of either party, to direct it to be heard in the Court of Errors and Appeals; and in that case the Chancellor and four judges shall compose the Court of Errors and Appeals, the Chancellor presiding, and any four of them being a quorum; and in the absence of the Chancellor, the Chief-Justice shall preside. The Superior Court in exercising this power may direct a cause to be proceeded in to verdict and judgment in that Court, or to be otherwise proceeded in, as shall be best for expediting justice.

Upon appeal from the Court of Chancery, the Court of Errors and Appeals shall consist of the Chief-Justice and three associate judges; any three of them shall be a quorum.]

8. [In matters of chancery jurisdiction in which the Chancellor is interested, the Chief-Justice sitting in the Superior Court without the associate judges, shall have jurisdiction, with an appeal to the Court of Errors and Appeals, which shall consist in this case of the three associate judges, the senior associate judge presiding.]

9. [The Governor shall have power to commission a judge *ad litem*, to decide any cause in which there is a legal exception to the Chancellor, or any judge, so that such appointment is necessary to constitute a quorum in either court. The commission in such case shall confine the office to the cause, and it shall expire on the determination of the cause. The judge so appointed shall receive a reasonable compensation, to be fixed by the General Assembly. A member of Congress, or any person holding or exercising an office under the United States, shall not be disqualified from being appointed a judge *ad litem*.]

10. [The Orphans' Court in each county, shall be held by the Chancellor and the associate judge residing in the county; the Chancellor being president. Either of them, in the absence of the other, may hold the Court. When they concur in opinion, there shall be no appeal from their decision except in matter of real estate. When their opinions are opposed, or when a decision is made by one of them, and in all matters involving a right to real estate, or the appraised value or other value thereof, there shall be an appeal to the Superior Court for the county, which shall have

final jurisdiction in every such case. This Court shall have all the jurisdiction and powers vested by the laws of this State in the Orphans' Court.]

11. [The jurisdiction of each of the aforesaid courts shall be co-extensive with the State. Process may be issued out of each court, in either county, into every county.]

12. [The General Assembly, notwithstanding any thing contained in this article, shall have power to repeal or alter any act of the General Assembly, giving jurisdiction to the courts of Oyer and Terminer and General Jail Delivery, or to the Supreme Court, or the Court of Common Pleas, or the Court of General Quarter Sessions of the Peace and General Jail Delivery, or the Orphans' Court, or to the Court of Chancery, in any matter, or giving any power to either of said courts. Until the General Assembly shall otherwise direct, there shall be an appeal to the Court of Errors and Appeals in all cases in which there is an appeal, according to any act of the General Assembly. to the high Court of Errors and Appeals.]

13. [Until the General Assembly shall otherwise provide, the Chancellor shall exercise all the powers which any law of the State vests in the Chancellor besides the general powers of the Court of Chancery; and the Chief Justice and associate judges shall each singly exercise all the powers which any law of this State vests in the judges singly of the Supreme Court or Court of Common Pleas.]

14. [The Chancellor and judges shall respectively hold their offices during good behavior, and receive for their services a compensation which shall be fixed by law and paid quarterly, and shall not be less than the following sums, that is to say:—the annual salary of the Chief Justice shall not be less than the sum of one thousand two hundred dollars: and the annual salary of the Chancellor shall not be less than the sum of one thousand one hundred dollars: and the annual salaries of the associate judges, respectively, shall not be less than the sum of one thousand dollars each. They shall hold no other office of profit, nor receive any fees or perquisites in addition to their salaries for business done by them. The Governor may, for any reasonable cause, in his discretion, remove any of them on the address of two-thirds of all the members of each branch of the General Assembly. In all cases where the Legislature shall so address the Governor, the cause of removal shall be entered on the journals of each house. The judge against whom the Legislature may be about to proceed, shall receive notice thereof, accompanied with the causes alleged for his removal, at least five days before the day on which either house of the General Assembly shall act thereupon.]

15. [The General Assembly may by law give to any inferior courts by them to be established, or to one or more justices of the peace, jurisdiction of the criminal matters following, that is to say: assaults and batteries, keeping without license a public house of entertainment, tavern, inn, ale-house, ordinary or victualling house, retailing



or selling without license, wine, rum, brandy, gin, whiskey, or spirituous or mixed liquors contrary to law, disturbing camp-meetings held for the purpose of religious worship, disturbing other meetings for the purpose of religious worship, nuisances, horse-racing, cock-fighting, and shooting matches, larcenies committed by negroes or mulattoes, and the offence of knowingly buying, receiving or concealing by negroes or mulattoes, of stolen goods and things the subject of larceny, and of any negro or mulatto being accessory to any larceny. The General Assembly may by law regulate this jurisdiction, and provide that the proceedings shall be with or without indictment by grand jury, or trial by petit jury, and may grant or deny the privilege of appeal to the Court of General Sessions of the Peace: the matters within this section shall be and the same hereby are excepted and excluded from the provision of the Constitution, that—“No person shall for an indictable offence be proceeded against criminally by information,”—and also from the provision of the Constitution concerning trial by jury.

16. In civil causes when pending, the [Superior] Court shall have the power, before judgment, of directing upon such terms as they shall deem reasonable, amendments in pleadings and legal proceedings, so that by error in any of them, the determination of causes, according to their real merits, shall not be hindered; and also of directing the examination of witnesses that are aged, very infirm, or going out of the State, upon interrogatories *de benne esse*, to be read in evidence, in case of the death or departure of the witnesses before the trial, or inability by reason of age, sickness, bodily infirmity, or imprisonment, then to attend; and also the power of obtaining evidence from places not within this State.

17. At any time pending an action for debt or damages, the defendant may bring into court a sum of money for discharging the same, and the cost then accrued, and the plaintiff not accepting thereof, it shall be delivered for his use to the clerk or prothonotary of the court; and if, upon the final decision of the cause, the plaintiff shall not recover a greater sum than that so paid into court for him, he shall not recover any costs accruing after such payment, except where the plaintiff is an executor or administrator.

18. By the death of any party, no suit in chancery or at law, where the cause of action survives, shall abate, but until the Legislature shall otherwise provide, suggestion of such death being entered of record, the executor or administrator of a deceased petitioner or plaintiff may prosecute the said suit; and if a respondent or defendant dies, the executor or administrator being duly served with a *scire facias*, thirty days before the term thereof, shall be considered as a party to the suit, in the same manner as if he had voluntarily made himself a party; and in any of those cases, the court shall pass a decree, or render judgment for or against the executors or administrators, as to right appertains. But where an executor or administrator of a deceased respondent or defendant becomes a

party, the Court, upon motion, shall grant such a continuance of the cause as to the judges shall appear proper.

19. Whenever a person, not being an executor or administrator, appeals from a decree of the Chancellor, or applies for a writ of error, such appeal or writ shall be no stay of proceeding in the chancery, or the court to which the writ issues, unless the appellant or plaintiff in error shall give sufficient security, to be approved respectively by the Chancellor, or by a judge of the court from which the writ issues, that the appellant or plaintiff in error shall prosecute respectively his appeal or writ to effect, and pay the condemnation money and all costs, or otherwise abide the decree in appeal, or the judgment in error, if he fail to make his plea good.

20. No writ of error shall be brought upon any judgment heretofore confessed, entered, or rendered, but within five years from this time ; nor upon any judgment hereafter to be confessed, entered, or rendered, but within five years after the confessing, entering, or rendering thereof ; unless the person entitled to such writ be an infant, feme covert, non compos mentis, or a prisoner, and then with five years exclusive of the time of such disability.

21. An executor, administrator, or guardian shall file every account with the register for the county, who shall, as soon as conveniently may be, carefully examine the particulars with the proofs thereof, in the presence of such executor, administrator, or guardian, and shall adjust and settle the same, according to the very right of the matter and the law of the land ; which account so settled, shall remain in his office for inspection ; and the executor, administrator, or guardian shall, within three months after such settlement, give due notice in writing to all persons entitled to shares of the estate, or to their guardians respectively, if residing within the State, that the account is lodged in the said office for inspection. [Exceptions may be made by persons concerned, to both sides of every such account, either denying the justice of the allowances made to the accountant, or alleging further charges against him ; and the exceptions shall be heard in the Orphan's Court for the county ; and thereupon the account shall be adjusted and settled according to the right of the matter and the law of the land.]

22. The register's of the several counties shall respectively hold the Register's Court in each county. Upon the litigation of a cause, the depositions of the witnesses examined shall be taken at large in writing, and make part of the proceedings in the cause. This Court may issue process throughout the State, to compel the attendance of witnesses. Appeals may be made from the Register's Court to the [Superior] Court, whose decisions shall be final. In cases where a register is interested in questions concerning the probate of wills, the granting letters of administration, or executors, administrators, or guardians' accounts, the cognizance thereof shall belong to the Orphan's Court, with an appeal to the [Superior] Court, whose decisions shall be final.



23. [The prothonotary of the Superior Court may issue process, take recognizances of bail, and enter judgments, according to law and the practice of the Court.] No judgment in one county shall bind lands or tenements in another, until a *testatum fieri facias* being issued, shall be entered of record in the office of the prothonotary of the county wherein the lands or tenements are situated.

24. The Governor shall appoint a competent number of persons to the office of justice of the peace, not exceeding twelve in each county, until two-thirds of both houses of the Legislature shall by law direct an addition to the number, who shall be commissioned for seven years, if so long they shall behave themselves well, but may be removed by the Governor within that time on conviction of misbehavior in office, or on the address of both houses of the Legislature.

25. The style in all process and public acts shall be, "*The State of Delaware.*" Prosecutions shall be carried on in the name of the State.

## ARTICLE VII.

SEC. 1. The members of the Senate and House of Representatives, the Chancellor, the judges, and the Attorney-General shall, by virtue of their offices, be conservators of the peace throughout the State; and the Treasurer, Secretary, prothonotaries, registers, recorders, sheriffs, and coroners, shall, by virtue of their offices, be conservators thereof within the counties respectively in which they reside.

2. The representative, and, when there shall be more than one, the representatives of the people of this State in Congress, shall be voted for at the same places where representatives in the Legislature are voted for, and in the same manner.

3. [The sheriff and coroner of each county shall be chosen by the citizens residing in such county. They shall hold their respective offices for two years, if so long they behave themselves well, and until successors be duly qualified; but no person shall be twice chosen sheriff upon election by the citizens in any term of four years. They shall be commissioned by the Governor. The Governor shall fill vacancies in these offices by appointments to continue until the next election, and until successors shall be duly qualified. The Legislature, two-thirds of each branch concurring, may vest the appointment of sheriffs and coroners in the Governor; but no person shall be twice appointed sheriff in any term of six years.]

4. The Attorney-General, [registers in chancery,] prothonotaries, registers, clerks of the orphans' court and of the peace, shall respectively be commissioned for five years, if so long they shall behave themselves well: but may be removed by the Governor within that time on conviction of misbehavior in office, or on the address of both houses of the Legislature. Prothonotaries, [registers in chancery,] clerks of the orphans' court, registers, recorders, and sheriffs, shall keep their offices in the town or place in each county in which the [superior] court [is] usually held.

5. Attorneys-at-law, all inferior offices in the treasury department, election officers, officers relating to taxes, to the poor, and to highways, constables and hundred officers, shall be appointed in such manner as is or may be directed by law.

6. All salaries and fees annexed to officers shall be moderate; and no officer shall receive any fees whatever without giving to the person who pays, a receipt for them, if required, therein specifying every particular and the charge for it.

7. No costs shall be paid by a person accused on a bill being returned ignoramus, nor on acquittal by a jury.

8. The rights, privileges, immunities, and estates of religious societies and corporate bodies shall remain as if the Constitution of this State had not been altered. No [ordained] clergyman or [ordained] preacher of the Gospel of any denomination shall be capable of holding any civil office in the State, or of being a member of either branch of the Legislature while he continues in the exercise of the pastoral or clerical functions.

9. All the laws of this State existing at the time of making this Constitution, and not inconsistent with it, shall remain in force, unless they shall be altered by future laws; and all actions and prosecutions now pending shall proceed as if this Constitution had not been made.

10. This Constitution shall be prefixed to every edition of the laws made by direction of the Legislature.

11. The Legislature shall, as soon as conveniently may be, provide by law for ascertaining what statutes and parts of statutes shall continue to be in force within this State; for reducing them and all acts of the General Assembly into such order, and publishing them in such manner, that thereby the knowledge of them may be generally diffused; for choosing inspectors and judges of elections, and regulating the same in such manner as shall most effectually guard the rights of the citizens entitled to vote; for better securing personal liberty, and easily and speedily redressing all wrongful restraints thereof; for more certainly obtaining returns of impartial juries; for dividing lands and tenements in sales by sheriffs, where they will bear a division, into as many parcels as may be without spoiling the whole, and for advertising and making the sales in such manner, and at such times and places as may render them most beneficial to all persons concerned; and for establishing schools, and promoting arts and sciences.

12. [No property qualification shall be necessary to the holding of any office in this State, except the office of senator in the General Assembly, and the office of assessor, inquisitor on lands, and levy court commissioner, and except such offices as the General Assembly shall by law designate.]

#### ARTICLE VIII.

Members of the General Assembly and all officers, executive and judicial, shall be bound by oath or affirmation, to support the Con-



stitution of this State, and to perform the duties of their respective offices with fidelity.

### ARTICLE IX.

The General Assembly, whenever two-thirds of each house shall deem it necessary, may, with the approbation of the Governor, propose amendments to this Constitution, and at least three, and not more than six months before the next general election of representatives, duly publish them in print for the consideration of the people; and if three-fourths of each branch of the Legislature shall, after such an election and before another, ratify the said amendments, they shall be valid to all intents and purposes as parts of this Constitution. No convention shall be called but by the authority of the people: and an unexceptionable mode of making their sense known will be for them at a [special election on the third Tuesday of May in any year] to vote by ballot for or against a convention, as they shall severally choose to do; and if thereupon it shall appear that a majority of all the citizens in the State, having right to vote for representatives, have voted for a convention, the General Assembly shall accordingly at their next session call a convention, to consist of at least as many members as there are in both houses of the Legislature, to be chosen in the same manner, at the same places, and at the same time that representatives are by the citizens entitled to vote for representatives, on due notice given for one month, and to meet within three months after they shall be elected. [The majority of all the citizens in the State having right to vote for representatives shall be ascertained by reference to the highest number of votes east in the State at any one of the three general elections, next preceeding the day of voting for a convention, except when they may be less than the whole number of votes voted both for and against a convention, in which case the said majority shall be ascertained by reference to the number of votes given on the day of voting for or against a convention; and whenever the General Assembly shall deem a convention necessary, they shall provide by law for the holding of a special election for the purpose of ascertaining the sense of the majority of the citizens of the State entitled to vote for representatives.]

### SCHEDULE.

That no inconveniences may arise from the amendments of the Constitution of this State, and in order to carry the same into complete operation, it is hereby declared and ordained as follows:—

SEC. 1. The offices of the present Senate and Representatives shall not be vacated by any amendment of the Constitution made in this Convention, nor otherwise affected, except that the terms of the representatives and the terms of the senators which will expire on the first Tuesday of October, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and thirty-two, are hereby extended to the second Tuesday of November, in that year: and the terms of the

senators which will expire on the first Tuesday of October, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and thirty-three, are hereby extended to the second Tuesday of November, in that year: And the terms of the Senators which will expire on the first Tuesday of October, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and thirty-four, are hereby extended to the second Tuesday of November, in that year.

The General Assembly shall meet on the first Tuesday of January next, and shall not be within the amended provision respecting biennial sessions, which biennial sessions shall commence with the session of the General Assembly on the first Tuesday of January, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and thirty-three.

2. The offices of the present sheriffs and coroners shall not be vacated by any amendment to the Constitution, made in this Convention, nor otherwise affected, except that the term of office of the sheriff of Sussex county is hereby extended to the second Tuesday of November, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and thirty-two, and until a successor be duly qualified: and on the second Tuesday of November, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and thirty-two, shall be the first election for sheriff in Sussex county under this amended Constitution. And the term of the present coroner for Sussex county is hereby extended to the second Tuesday of November, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and thirty-four, and until a successor shall be duly qualified; and on the said last mentioned day shall be the first election for coroner in Sussex county under this amended Constitution.

The terms of the present sheriffs and coroners for Kent county and New Castle county are hereby extended to the second Tuesday of November, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and thirty-three, and until successors to them respectively be duly qualified; and on or after the first Tuesday of November, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and thirty-three, the Governor shall have power to appoint a sheriff and a coroner for New Castle county, and a sheriff and coroner for Kent county, to continue in office until the second Tuesday of November, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and thirty-four, and until successors to them respectively be duly qualified. And on the said last mentioned day shall be the first election for sheriff and for coroner in New Castle county and in Kent county under this amended Constitution, unless a vacancy happen in the office of sheriff or coroner of New Castle or Kent county, or of coroner for Sussex county before the second Tuesday of November, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and thirty-two; in which case an election shall be held on that day for a sheriff or a coroner under this amended Constitution, in place of the sheriff or coroner whose office had become vacant.

3 The first election for representatives under this amended Constitution shall be held on the second Tuesday of November, in the



year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and thirty-two; which shall be the commencement of biennial elections. At this election one senator shall be chosen in each county for four years. Also at the biennial election to be held in the several counties on the second Tuesday of November, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and thirty-four, two senators shall be chosen in each county for four years each. But as the term of one senator in each county will expire on the second Tuesday of November, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and thirty-three, when no election will be held to provide for this special case, a senator shall be chosen in each county, at the election held on the second Tuesday of November, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and thirty-two, for one year, to succeed the senator for such county whose term shall expire on the second Tuesday of November, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and thirty-three, and to continue in office until the second Tuesday in November, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and thirty-four, when two senators shall be chosen in each county as afore-provided.

4. The term of office of the present Governor shall not be vacated nor extended by amendment made to the Constitution in this Convention; but the said office shall continue during the original term thereof, but the ninth and fourteenth sections of the third article of this Constitution shall be immediately in force as amended. An election for Governor shall be held on the second Tuesday of November, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and thirty-two.

5. This Constitution as amended, so far as shall concern the judicial department, shall commence and be in operation from and after the third Tuesday of January, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and thirty-two. All the courts of justice now existing shall continue with their present jurisdiction, and the Chancellor and judges and the clerks of the said courts shall continue in office until the said third Tuesday of January, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and thirty-two; upon which day the said courts shall be abolished, and the offices of the said Chancellor, judges, and clerks shall expire. All writs of error and appeals and proceedings which, on the third Tuesday of January, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and thirty-two, shall be depending in the high Court of Errors and Appeals, and all the books, records, and papers of said Court shall be transferred to the Court of Errors and Appeals established by this amended Constitution; and the said writs of errors, appeals, and proceedings shall be proceeded in, in the said Court of Errors and Appeals, to final judgment, decree, or other determination.

All suits, proceedings, and matters which, on the third Tuesday of January, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and thirty-two, shall be depending in the Supreme Court, or Court

of Common Pleas, and all books, records, and papers of the said Courts, shall be transferred to the Superior Court established by this amended Constitution, and the said suits, proceedings, and matters shall be proceeded in to final judgment or determination in the said Superior Court. All indictments, proceedings, and matters which, on the third Tuesday of January, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and thirty-two, shall be depending in the Court of General Quarter Sessions of the Peace and Jail Delivery, shall be transferred to and proceeded in to final judgment and determination in the Court of General Sessions of the Peace and Jail Delivery, established by this amended Constitution, and all books, records, and papers of said Court of General Quarter Sessions of the Peace and Jail Delivery shall be transferred to the said Court of General Sessions of the Peace and Jail Delivery. All suits, proceedings, and matters which on the third Tuesday of January, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and thirty-two, shall be depending in the Court of Chancery or in the Orphans' Court, and all records, books, and papers of said courts respectively, shall be transferred to the Court of Chancery or Orphans' Court respectively, established by this amended Constitution, and the said suits, proceedings, and matters shall proceed in to final decree, order, or other determination.

6. The register's courts and justices of the peace shall not be affected by any amendments of the Constitution made in this Convention ; but the said courts and the terms of office of registers and justices of the peace shall remain the same as if said amendments had not been made.

7. The General Assembly shall have power to make any law necessary to carry into effect this amended Constitution.

8. The provision in the twentieth section of the sixth article of this amended Constitution (being the thirtieth section of the sixth article of the original Constitution) of limitation of writs of error, shall have relation to, and take date from, the twelfth day of June, in the year of our Lord one thousand seven hundred and ninety-two, the date of said original Constitution.

9. The Governor shall have power to issue writs of election to supply vacancies in either house of the General Assembly that have happened or may happen.

10. It is declared that nothing in this amended Constitution gives a writ of error from the Court of Errors and Appeals to the Court of Oyer and Terminer, or Court of General Sessions of the Peace and Jail Delivery, nor an appeal from the Court of General Sessions of the Peace and Jail Delivery.

The acts of the General Assembly, increasing the number of justices of the peace, shall remain in force until repealed by the General Assembly ; and no office shall be vacated by the amendment to this Constitution, unless the same be expressly vacated thereby, or the vacating the same is necessary to give effect to the amendments



## MARYLAND.



In 1632, George Calvert (Lord Baltimore), a distinguished Catholic, applied to Charles I. for a territory north of Virginia, for the purpose of establishing a colony. Before the grant had passed the royal seal, Lord B. died. About two months afterwards, the territory was granted to Cecil Calvert, oldest son of Geo., now Lord B. In honor of Henrietta Maria,\* it was called Maryland. Leonard Calvert, brother of Lord B., was appointed first Gov. He, with about 200 Catholic emigrants, came over in 1634, and located themselves at St. Mary's. Many circumstances favored the settlement and increase of Maryland. The soil and the climate were inviting, but what added more to its growth, was that equal protection was granted to all religious denominations, and the people were permitted to make their own laws. The first assembly was composed of all the freemen in the colony. In 1639, there was a change—the House of Assembly was made up of representatives chosen by the people. In 1650, there was another change, and a Constitution adopted, by which the Legislature was divided into two houses, one to be composed of representatives chosen by the people; the other of persons appointed by the proprietors. But there was no permanent government, as changes were continually taking place, until the beginning of the Revolution, when the authority fell in the hands of the people. In 1776, they adopted their second Constitution, and their present Constitution in 1851. Maryland, from the first, was active in resisting British oppression, and bore her full share in the hardships of the Revolutionary War.

Area, 13,959. Pop., 1850, 583,035.

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\* Queen of Charles I.

ADOPTED IN CONVENTION, WHICH ASSEMBLED AT THE CITY OF ANNAPOLIS ON THE FOURTH DAY OF NOVEMBER, EIGHTEEN HUNDRED AND FIFTY, AND ADJOURNED ON THE THIRTEENTH DAY OF MAY, EIGHTEEN HUNDRED AND FIFTY-ONE.

### THE DECLARATION OF RIGHTS.

*We, the People of the State of Maryland, grateful to Almighty God for our civil and religious liberty, and taking into our serious consideration the best means of establishing a good Constitution in this State, for the sure foundation and more permanent security thereof, declare :*

ART. 1. That all government of right originates from the people, is founded in compact only, and instituted solely for the good of the whole; and they have at all times, according to the mode prescribed in this Constitution, the unalienable right to alter, reform, or abolish their form of government, in such manner as they may deem expedient.

2. That the people of this State ought to have the sole and exclusive right of regulating the internal government and police thereof.

3. That the inhabitants of Maryland are entitled to the common law of England, and the trial by jury according to the course of that law, and to the benefit of such of the English statutes as existed on the fourth day of July, seventeen hundred and seventy-six, and which, by experience, have been found applicable to their local and other circumstances, and have been introduced, used and practised by the courts of law or equity, and also of all acts of Assembly in force on the first Monday of November, eighteen hundred and fifty, except such as may have since expired, or may be altered by this Constitution, subject, nevertheless, to the revision of, and amendment or repeal by the Legislature of this State; and the inhabitants of Maryland are also entitled to all property derived to them from or under the charter granted by his Majesty Charles the First, to Cæcilius Calvert, Baron of Baltimore.

4. That all persons invested with the legislative or executive powers of government are the trustees of the public, and as such accountable for their conduct; wherefore, whenever the ends of government are perverted, and public liberty manifestly endangered, and all other means of redress are ineffectual, the people may, and of right ought to reform the old or establish a new government. The doctrine of non-resistance against arbitrary power and oppression is absurd, slavish and destructive of the good and happiness of mankind.



5. That the right of the people to participate in the Legislature is the best security of liberty, and the foundation of all free government; for this purpose elections ought to be free and frequent, and every free white male citizen having the qualifications prescribed by the Constitution, ought to have the right of suffrage.

6. That the legislative, executive and judicial powers of government ought to be forever separate and distinct from each other; and no person exercising the functions of one of said departments, shall assume or discharge the duties of any other.

7. That no power of suspending laws, or the execution of laws, unless by or derived from the Legislature, ought to be exercised or allowed.

8. That freedom of speech and debate or proceedings in the Legislature, ought not to be impeached in any court of judicature.

9. That Annapolis be the place for the meeting of the Legislature; and the Legislature ought not to be convened or held at any other place but from evident necessity.

10. That for the redress of grievances, and for amending, strengthening and preserving the laws, the Legislature ought to be frequently convened.

11. That every man hath a right to petition the Legislature for the redress of grievances in a peaceable and orderly manner.

12. That no aid, charge, tax, burthen, or fees, ought to be rated or levied, under any pretence, without the consent of the Legislature.

13. That the levying of taxes by the poll is grievous and oppressive, and ought to be abolished; that paupers ought not to be assessed for the support of government, but every other person in the State, or person holding property therein, ought to contribute his proportion of public taxes, for the support of government, according to his actual worth in real or personal property; yet fines, duties, or taxes may properly and justly be imposed or laid, on persons or property, with a political view, for the good government and benefit of the community.

14. That sanguinary laws ought to be avoided as far as is consistent with the safety of the State; and no law to inflict cruel and unusual pains and penalties ought to be made in any case, or at any time hereafter.

15. That retrospective laws, punishing acts committed before the existence of such laws, and by them only declared criminal, are oppressive, unjust and incompatible with liberty; wherefore, no *ex post facto* law ought to be made.

16. That no law to attain particular persons of treason or felony, ought to be made in any case, or at any time hereafter.

17. That every free man, for any injury done to him in his person or property, ought to have remedy by the course of the law of the land, and ought to have justice and right, freely without sale,

fully without any denial, and speedily without delay, according to the law of the land.

18. That the trial of facts where they arise, is one of the greatest securities of the lives, liberties, and estate of the people.

19. That in all criminal prosecutions, every man hath a right to be informed of the accusation against him; to have a copy of the indictment or charge, in due time (if required) to prepare for his defence; to be allowed counsel; to be confronted with the witnesses against him; to have process for his witnesses; to examine the witnesses for and against him on oath; and to a speedy trial by an impartial jury, without whose unanimous consent he ought not to be found guilty.

20. That no man ought to be compelled to give evidence against himself in a court of common law, or in any other court, but in such cases as have been usually practised in this State, or may hereafter be directed by the Legislature.

21. That no free man ought to be taken or imprisoned, or dis-seized of his freehold, liberties or privileges, or outlawed, or exiled, or in any manner destroyed, or deprived of his life, liberty or property, but by the judgment of his peers, or by the law of the land; provided, that nothing in this article shall be so construed as to prevent the Legislature from passing all such laws for the government, regulation and disposition of the free colored population of this State as they may deem necessary.

22. That excessive bail ought not to be required, nor excessive fines imposed, nor cruel or unusual punishment inflicted by the courts of law.

23. That all warrants, without oath, or affirmation, to search suspected places, or to seize any person or property, are grievous and oppressive; and all general warrants to search suspected places, or to apprehend suspected persons, without naming or describing the place, or the person in special, are illegal, and ought not to be granted.

24. That no conviction shall work corruption of blood, or forfeiture of estate.

25. That a well regulated militia is the proper and natural defence of a free government.

26. That standing armies are dangerous to liberty, and ought not to be raised or kept up without consent of the Legislature.

27. That in all cases and at all times the military ought to be under strict subordination to, and control of, the civil power.

28. That no soldier ought to be quartered in any house in time of peace without the consent of the owner, and in time of war in such manner only as the Legislature shall direct.

29. That no person, except regular soldiers, mariners, and marines, in the service of this State, or militia when in actual service, ought in any case to be subject to, or punishable by, martial law.

30. That the independency and uprightness of judges are essential



to the impartial administration of justice, and a great security to the rights and liberties of the people; wherefore the judges shall not be removed, except for misbehaviour, on conviction in a court of law, or by the governor, upon the address of the General Assembly; provided, that two-thirds of all the members of each house concur in such address. No judge shall hold any other office, civil or military, or political trust or employment of any kind whatsoever, under the constitution or laws of this State, or of the United States, or any of them, or receive fees or perquisites of any kind for the discharge of his official duties.

31. That a long continuance in the executive departments of power or trust is dangerous to liberty; a rotation, therefore, in those departments is one of the best securities of permanent freedom.

32. That no person ought to hold at the same time more than one office of profit, created by the constitution or laws of this State; nor ought any person in public trust to receive any present from any foreign prince, or State, or from the United States, or any of them, without the approbation of this State.

33. That as it is the duty of every man to worship God in such manner as he thinks most acceptable to Him, all persons are equally entitled to protection in their religious liberty; wherefore, no person ought, by any law, to be molested in his person or estate, on account of his religious persuasion or profession, or for his religious practice, unless under color of religion any man shall disturb the good order, peace, or safety of the State, or shall infringe the laws of morality, or injure others in their natural, civil, or religious rights; nor ought any person to be compelled to frequent or maintain or contribute, unless on contract, to maintain any place of worship or any ministry; nor shall any person be deemed incompetent as a witness or juror who believes in the existence of a God, and that under his dispensation such person will be held morally accountable for his acts, and be rewarded or punished therefor, either in this world or the world to come.

34. That no other test or qualification ought to be required, on admission to any office of trust or profit, than such oath of office as may be prescribed by this Constitution, or by the laws of the State, and a declaration of belief in the Christian religion; and if the party shall profess to be a Jew, the declaration shall be of his belief in a future state of rewards and punishments.

35. That every gift, sale or devise of land, to any minister, public teacher or preacher of the gospel, as such, or to any religious sect, order or denomination, or to or for the support, use or benefit of, or in trust for any minister, public teacher, or preacher of the gospel, as such, or any religious sect, order or denomination, and every gift or sale of goods or chattels to go in succession, or to take place after the death of the seller or donor, to or for such support, use or benefit; and, also, every devise of goods or chattels, to or for the

support, use or benefit of any minister, public teacher or preacher of the gospel, as such; or any religious sect, order or denomination, without the leave of the Legislature, shall be void; except always, any sale, gift, lease or devise of any quantity of land, not exceeding five acres, for a church, meeting house or other house of worship, or parsonage, or for a burying ground, which shall be improved, enjoyed or used only for such purpose; or such sale, gift, lease or devise shall be void.

36. That the manner of administering an oath or affirmation to any person, ought to be such as those of the religious persuasion, profession or denomination of which he is a member, generally esteem the most effectual confirmation by the attestation of the Divine Being.

37. That the city of Annapolis ought to have all its rights, privileges and benefits, agreeably to its charter, and the acts of Assembly confirming and regulating the same; subject to such alterations as have been or as may be made by the Legislature.

38. That the liberty of the press ought to be inviolably preserved.

39. That monopolies are odious, contrary to the spirit of a free government and the principles of commerce, and ought not to be suffered.

40. That no title of nobility or hereditary honors ought to be granted in this State.

41. That the Legislature ought to encourage the diffusion of knowledge and virtue, the promotion of literature, the arts, sciences, agriculture, commerce and manufactures, and the general melioration of the condition of the people.

42. This enumeration of rights shall not be construed to impair or deny others retained by the people.

43. That this Constitution shall not be altered, changed or abolished, except in the manner therein prescribed and directed.

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## CONSTITUTION.

### ARTICLE. I.—*Elective Franchise.*

SEC. 1. Every free white male person, of twenty-one years of age or upwards, who shall have been one year next preceeding the election a resident of the State, and for six months a resident of the city of Baltimore, or of any county in which he may offer to vote, and being at the time of the election a citizen of the United States, shall be entitled to vote in the ward or election district in which he resides, in all elections hereafter to be held; and at all such elections the vote shall be taken by ballot. And in case any county or city shall be so divided as to form portions of different electoral districts for the election of Congressmen, Senator, delegate,



or other officer or officers, then to entitle a person to vote for such officer, he must have been a resident of that part of the county or city which shall form a part of the electoral district in which he offers to vote, for six months next preceding the election; but a person who shall have acquired a residence in such county or city entitling him to vote at any such election, shall be entitled to vote in the election district from which he removed, until he shall have acquired a residence in the part of the county or city to which he has removed.

2. That if any person shall give, or offer to give, directly or indirectly, any bribe, present or reward, or any promise, or any security for the payment or delivery of money or any other thing, to induce any voter to refrain from casting his vote, or forcibly to prevent him in any way from voting, or to obtain or procure a vote for any candidate or person proposed or voted for, as elector of President and Vice-President of the United States, or Representative in Congress, or for any office of profit or trust created by the Constitution or laws of this State, or by the ordinances or authority of the Mayor and City Council of Baltimore, the person giving or offering to give, and the person receiving the same, and any person who gives or causes to be given an illegal vote, knowing it to be so, at any election to be hereafter held in this State, shall, on conviction in a court of law, in addition to the penalties now or hereafter to be imposed by law, be forever disqualified to hold any office of profit or trust, or to vote at any election thereafter.

3. It shall be the duty of the General Assembly of Maryland to pass laws to punish with fine and imprisonment any person who shall remove into any election district or ward of the city of Baltimore, not for the purpose of acquiring a *bona fide* residence therein, but for the purpose of voting therein at an approaching election, or who shall vote in any election district or ward in which he does not reside (except in the case provided for in the first article of the Constitution), or shall, at the same election, vote in more than one election district or ward, or shall vote or offer to vote, in any name not his own, or in place of any other person of the same name, or shall vote in any county in which he does not reside.

4. Every person elected or appointed to any office of profit or trust under the Constitution or laws made pursuant thereto, before he shall enter upon the duties of such office, shall take and subscribe the following oath or affirmation: I, A. B., do swear (or affirm, as the case may be), that I will support the constitution of the United States, and that I will be faithful and bear true allegiance to the State of Maryland, and support the Constitution and laws thereof; that I will to the best of my skill and judgment diligently and faithfully, without partiality or prejudice, execute the office of ——— according to the Constitution and laws of this State, and that since the adoption of the present Constitution, I have not, in any manner, violated the provisions thereof in relation to bribery

of voters or preventing legal or procuring illegal votes to be given ; (and if a Governor, Senator, member of the House of Delegates, or Judge), "that I will not directly or indirectly receive the profits or any part of the profits of any other office during the time of my acting as ———." And if any person elected or appointed to office as aforesaid, shall refuse or neglect to take the said oath or affirmation, he shall be considered as having refused to accept the said office, and a new election or appointment shall be made as in case of refusal or resignation, and any person swearing or affirming falsely in the premises, shall, on conviction thereof in a court of law, incur the penalties for wilful and corrupt perjury, and be thereafter incapable of voting at any election, and also incapable of holding any office of profit or trust in this State.

5. That no person above the age of twenty-one years, convicted of larceny or other infamous crime, unless he shall be pardoned by the Executive, shall ever thereafter be entitled to vote at any election in this State, and no person under guardianship as a lunatic, or as a person *non compos mentis*, shall be entitled to vote.

## ARTICLE II.—*Executive Department.*

SEC. 1.—The Executive power of the State shall be vested in a Governor, whose term of office shall commence on the second Wednesday of January next ensuing his election, and continue for four years, and until his successor shall have qualified.

2. The first election for Governor under this Constitution shall be held on the first Wednesday of November, in the year eighteen hundred and fifty-three, and on the same day and month in every fourth year thereafter, at the places of voting for delegates to the General Assembly, and every person qualified to vote for delegates shall be qualified and entitled to vote for Governor ; the election to be held in the same manner as the election of delegates, and the returns thereof, under seal, to be addressed to the Speaker of the House of Delegates, and enclosed and transmitted to the Secretary of State, and delivered to the said Speaker at the commencement of the session of the Legislature next ensuing said election.

3. The Speaker of the House of Delegates shall then open the said returns in the presence of both Houses, and the person having the highest number of votes, and being constitutionally eligible, shall be the Governor, and shall qualify in the manner herein prescribed, on the second Wednesday of January next ensuing his election, or as soon thereafter as may be practicable.

4. If two or more persons shall have the highest and an equal number of votes, one of them shall be chosen Governor by the Senate and House of Delegates ; and all questions in relation to the eligibility of Governor, and to the returns of said election, and to the number and legality of votes therein given, shall be determined by the House of Delegates. And if the person or persons having the highest number of votes be ineligible, the Governor shall be



chosen by the Senate and House of Delegates. Every election of Governor, by the Legislature, shall be determined by a joint majority of the Senate and House of Delegates, and the vote shall be taken *viva voce*. But if two or more persons shall have the highest and an equal number of votes, then a second vote shall be taken, which shall be confined to the persons having an equal number; and if the votes should again be equal, then the election of Governor shall be determined by lot between those who shall have the highest and an equal number on the first vote.

5. The State shall be divided into three districts—St. Mary's, Charles, Calvert, Prince George's, Anne Arundel, Montgomery, and Howard counties, and the city of Baltimore to be the first; the eight counties of the Eastern shore to be the second; and Baltimore, Harford, Frederick, Washington, Allegany, and Carroll counties, to be the third. The Governor, elected from the third district in October last, shall continue in office during the term for which he was elected. The Governor shall be taken from the first district, at the first election of Governor under this Constitution; from the second district at the second election, and from the third district at the third election, and in like manner, afterwards, from each district, in regular succession.

6. A person to be eligible to the office of Governor, must have attained the age of thirty years, and been for five years a citizen of the United States, and for five years next preceding his election a resident of the State, and for three years a resident of the district from which he was elected.

7. In case of the death or resignation of the Governor, or of his removal from the State, the General Assembly, if in session, or if not, at their next session, shall elect some other qualified resident of the same district, to be the Governor for the residue of the term for which the said Governor had been elected.

8. In case of any vacancy in the office of Governor during the recess of the Legislature, the President of the Senate shall discharge the duties of said office till a Governor is elected as herein provided for; and in case of the death or resignation of said President, or of his removal from the State, or of his refusal to serve, then the duties of said office shall, in like manner, and for the same interval, devolve upon the Speaker of the House of Delegates, and the Legislature may provide by law for the case of impeachment or inability of the Governor, and declare what person shall perform the executive duties during such impeachment or inability; and for any vacancy in said office, not herein provided for, provision may be made by law, and if such vacancy should occur without such provision being made, the Legislature shall be convened by the Secretary of State for the purpose of filling said vacancy.

9. The Governor shall be commander-in-chief of the land and naval forces of the State, and may call out the militia to repel invasions, suppress insurrections, and enforce the execution of the

laws; but shall not take the command in person without the consent of the Legislature.

10. He shall take care that the laws be faithfully executed.

11. He shall nominate, and by and with the advice and consent of the Senate, appoint all civil and military officers of the State, whose appointment or election is not otherwise herein provided for, unless a different mode of appointment be prescribed by the law creating the office.

12. In case of any vacancy during the recess of the Senate, in any office which the Governor has power to fill, he shall appoint some suitable person to said office, whose commission shall continue in force till the end of the next session of the Legislature, or till some other person is appointed to the same office, whichever shall first occur, and the nomination of the person thus appointed during the recess, or of some other person in his place, shall be made to the Senate within thirty days after the next meeting of the Legislature.

13. No person, after being rejected by the Senate, shall be again nominated for the same office at the same session, unless at the request of the Senate; or be appointed to the same office during the recess of the Legislature.

14. All civil officers appointed by the Governor and Senate shall be nominated to the Senate within fifty days from the commencement of each regular session of the Legislature; and their term of office shall commence on the first Monday of May next ensuing their appointment, and continue for two years (unless sooner removed from office) and until their successors, respectively, qualify according to law.

15. The Governor may suspend or arrest any military officer of the State, for disobedience of orders, or other military offense, and may remove him in pursuance of the sentence of a court-martial; and may remove for incompetency or misconduct, all civil officers who receive appointments from the executive for a term not exceeding two years.

16. The Governor may convene the Legislature, or the Senate alone, on extraordinary occasions; and whenever, from the presence of an enemy or from any other cause, the seat of government shall become an unsafe place for the meeting of the Legislature, he may direct their sessions to be held at some other convenient place.

17. It shall be the duty of the Governor semi-annually, and oftener if he deem it expedient, to examine the bank-book, account books, and official proceedings of the Treasurer and Comptroller of the State.

18. He shall, from time to time, inform the Legislature of the condition of the State, and recommend to their consideration such measures as he may judge necessary and expedient.

19. He shall have power to grant reprieves and pardons, except in cases of impeachment, and in cases in which he is prohibited by other articles of this Constitution, and to remit fines and forfeitures



for offences against the State; but shall not remit the principal or interest of any debt due to the State, except in cases of fines and forfeitures; and before granting a *nolle prosequi*, or pardon, he shall give notice, in one or more newspapers, of the application made for it, and of the day on or after which his decision will be given; and in every case in which he exercises this power, he shall report to either branch of the Legislature, whenever required, the petitions, recommendations and reasons which influence his decision.

20. The Governor shall reside at the seat of government, and shall receive for his services an annual salary of thirty-six hundred dollars.

21. When the public interest requires it, he shall have power to employ counsel, who shall be entitled to such compensation as the Legislature may allow in each case after the services of such counsel shall have been performed.

22. A Secretary of State shall be appointed by the Governor, by and with the advice and consent of the Senate, who shall continue in office, unless sooner removed by the Governor, till the end of the official term of the Governor from whom he received his appointment, and shall receive an annual salary of one thousand dollars.

23. He shall carefully keep and preserve a record of all official acts and proceedings (which may, at all times, be inspected by a committee of either branch of the Legislature), and shall perform such other duties as may be prescribed by law, or as may properly belong to his office.

### ARTICLE III.—*Legislative Department.*

SEC. 1. The Legislature shall consist of two distinct branches, a Senate and a House of Delegates, which shall be styled "The General Assembly of Maryland."

2. Every county of the State, and the city of Baltimore, shall be entitled to elect one Senator, who shall be elected by the qualified voters of the counties and city of Baltimore, respectively, and who shall serve for four years from the day of their election.

3. The Legislature, at its first session after the returns of the national census of eighteen hundred and sixty are published, and in like manner after each subsequent census, shall apportion the members of the House of Delegates among the several counties of the State, according to the population of each, and shall always allow to the city of Baltimore four more delegates than are allowed to the most populous county, but no county shall be entitled to less than two members, nor shall the whole number of delegates ever exceed eighty, or be less than sixty-five; and until the apportionment is made under the census of eighteen hundred and sixty, St. Mary's county shall be entitled to two delegates; Kent, two; Anne Arundel, three; Calvert, two; Charles, two; Baltimore county, six; Talbot, two; Somerset, four; Dorchester, three; Cecil, three; Prince George's, three; Queen Anne's, two; Worcester, three;

Frederick, six; Harford, three; Caroline, two; Baltimore city, ten; Washington, five; Montgomery, two; Allegany, four; Carroll, three; and Howard, two.

4. The members of the House of Delegates shall be elected by the qualified voters of the counties and city of Baltimore respectively, to serve for two years from the day of their election.

5. The first election for delegates shall take place on the first Wednesday of November, eighteen hundred and fifty-one; and the elections for delegates, and for one-half of the senators, as nearly as practicable, shall be held on the same day in every second year thereafter, but an election for senators shall be held in the year eighteen hundred and fifty-one, in Howard county, and all those counties in which senators were elected in the year eighteen hundred and forty-six.

6. Immediately after the Senate shall have convened after the first election under this Constitution, the senators shall be divided by lot into two classes, as nearly equal in number as may be—the senators of the first class shall go out of office at the expiration of two years, and senators shall be elected on the first Wednesday of November, eighteen hundred and fifty-three, for the term of four years, to supply their places; so that, after the first election, one-half of the senators may be chosen every second year; provided, that in no case shall any senator be placed in a class which shall entitle him to serve for a longer term than that for which he was elected. In case the number of senators be hereafter increased, such classification of the additional senators shall be made as to preserve as nearly as may be an equal number in each class.

7. The General Assembly shall meet on the first Wednesday of January, eighteen hundred and fifty-two, on the same day, in the year eighteen hundred and fifty-three, and on the same day in the year eighteen hundred and fifty-four, and on the same day in every second year thereafter, and at no other time unless convened by the proclamation of the Governor.

8. The General Assembly may continue their first two sessions after the adoption of this Constitution, as long as, in the opinion of the two houses, the public interests may require it, but all subsequent regular sessions of the General Assembly shall be closed on the 10th day of March next ensuing the time of their commencement, unless the same shall be closed at an earlier day by the agreement of the two houses.

9. No person shall be eligible as a senator or delegate who, at the time of his election, is not a citizen of the United States, and who has not resided at least three years next preceding the day of his election in this State, and the last year thereof in the county or city which he may be chosen to represent, if such county or city shall have been so long established, and if not, then in the county from which, in whole or in part, the same may have been formed; nor shall any person be eligible as a senator unless he shall have



attained the age of twenty-five years, nor as a delegate unless he shall have attained the age of twenty-one years at the time of his election.

10. No member of Congress, or persons holding any civil or military office under the United States, shall be eligible as a senator or delegate; and if any person shall, after his election as a senator or delegate, be elected to Congress, or be appointed to any office, civil or military, under the government of the United States, his acceptance thereof shall vacate his seat.

11. No minister or preacher of the Gospel, of any denomination, and no person holding any civil office of profit or trust under this State, except justices of the peace, shall be eligible as senator or delegate.

12. Each house shall be judge of the qualifications and elections of its members, subject to the laws of the State—appoint its own officers, determine the rules of its own proceedings, punish a member for disorderly or disrespectful behavior, and with the consent of two-thirds, expel a member; but no member shall be expelled a second time for the same offence.

13. A majority of each house shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business, but a smaller number may adjourn from day to day, and compel the attendance of absent members in such manner and under such penalties as each house may prescribe.

14. The doors of each house and of committees of the whole shall be open, except when the business is such as ought to be kept secret.

15. Each house shall keep a journal of its proceedings, and cause the same to be published. The yeas and nays of members on any question shall, at the call of any five of them, in the House of Delegates, or one in the Senate, be entered on the journal.

16. Neither house shall, without the consent of the other, adjourn for more than three days; nor to any other place than that in which the house shall be sitting, without the concurrent vote of two-thirds of the members present.

17. The style of all laws of this State shall be, "Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Maryland," and all laws shall be passed by original bill, and every law enacted by the Legislature shall embrace but one subject, and that shall be described in the title, and no law or section of law shall be revived, amended or repealed by reference to its title or section only; and it shall be the duty of the Legislature, at the first session after the adoption of this Constitution, to appoint two commissioners learned in the law, to revise and codify the laws of this State; and the said commissioners shall report the said code, so formed, to the Legislature, within a time to be by it determined for its approval, amendment, or rejection; and, if adopted after the revision and codification of the said laws, it shall be the duty of the Legislature, in amending any article or section thereof, to enact the same as the said article or section would read

when amended. And whenever the Legislature shall enact any public general law, not amendatory of any section or article in the said code, it shall be the duty of the Legislature to enact the same in articles and sections, in the same manner as the said code may be arranged; and to provide for the publication of all additions and alterations which may be made to the said code, and it shall also be the duty of the Legislature to appoint one or more commissioners learned in the law, whose duty it shall be to revise, simplify, and abridge the rules of practice, pleadings, forms of conveyancing, and proceedings of the courts of record, in this State.

18. Any bill may originate in either house of the General Assembly, and be altered, amended or rejected by the other, but no bill shall originate in either house during the last three days of the session, or become a law, until it be read on three different days of the session in each house, unless three-fourths of the members of the house, where such bill is pending, shall so determine.

19. No bill shall become a law unless it be passed in each house by a majority of the whole number of members elected, and on its final passage the ayes and noes be recorded.

20. No money shall be drawn from the treasury of the State, except in accordance with an appropriation made by law, and every such law shall distinctly specify the sum appropriated, and the object to which it shall be applied, provided that nothing herein contained shall prevent the Legislature from placing a contingent fund at the disposal of the Executive, who shall report to the Legislature at each session the amount expended and the purposes to which it was applied; an accurate statement of the receipts and expenditures of the public money shall be attached to and published with the laws after each regular session of the General Assembly.

21. No divorce shall be granted by the General Assembly.

22. No debt shall hereafter be contracted by the Legislature, unless such debt shall be authorized by a law providing for the collection of an annual tax or taxes sufficient to pay the interest on such debt as it falls due, and also to discharge the principal thereof within fifteen years from the time of contracting the same, and the taxes laid for this purpose shall not be repealed or applied to any other object until the said debt and the interest thereon shall be fully discharged, and the amount of debts so contracted and remaining unpaid shall never exceed one hundred thousand dollars. The credit of the State shall not, in any manner, be given or loaned to or in aid of any individual, association or corporation, nor shall the General Assembly have the power, in any mode, to involve the State in the construction of works of internal improvement, or in any enterprise which shall involve the faith or credit of the State, or make any appropriations therefor. And they shall not use or appropriate the proceeds of the internal improvement companies, or of the State tax now levied, or which may hereafter be levied, to pay off the public debt, to any other purpose, until the interest and debt



are fully paid, or the sinking fund shall be equal to the amount of the outstanding debt; but the Legislature may, without laying a tax, borrow an amount never to exceed fifty thousand dollars, to meet temporary deficiencies in the Treasury, and may contract debts to any amount that may be necessary for the defence of the State.

23. No extra compensation shall be granted or allowed by the General Assembly to any public officer, agent, servant or contractor, after the services shall have been rendered or the contract entered into. Nor shall the salary or compensation of any public officer be increased or diminished during his term of office.

24. No Senator or Delegate, after qualifying as such, shall, during the term for which he was elected, be eligible to any office which shall have been created, or the salary or profits of which shall have been increased during such term, or shall, during said term, hold any office or receive the salary or profits of any office, under the appointment of the Executive or Legislature.

25. Each house may punish by imprisonment, during the session of the General Assembly, any person not a member, for disrespectful or disorderly behavior in its presence, or for obstructing any of its proceedings or any of its officers in the execution of their duties; provided such imprisonment shall not, at any one time, exceed ten days.

26. The members of each house shall, in all cases, except treason, felony, or other criminal offence, be privileged from arrest during their attendance at the session of the General Assembly, and in going to and returning from the same, allowing one day for every thirty miles such member may reside from the place at which the General Assembly is convened.

27. No Senator or Delegate shall be liable, in any civil action or criminal prosecution whatever, for words spoken in debate.

28. The House of Delegates may inquire, on the oath of witnesses, into all complaints, grievances and offences, as the Grand Inquest of the State, and may commit any person for any crime to the public jail, there to remain until discharged by due course of law—they may examine and pass all accounts of the State, relating either in the collection or expenditure of the revenue, and appoint auditors to state and adjust the same—they may call for all public or official papers, and records, and send for persons whom they may judge necessary in the course of their inquiries concerning affairs relating to the public interest, and may direct all office bonds which shall be made payable to the State, to be sued for any breach of duty.

29. In case of death, disqualification, resignation, refusal to act, expulsion or removal from the county or city for which he shall have been elected, of any person who shall have been chosen as a delegate or senator, or in case of a tie between two or more such qualified persons, a warrant of election shall be issued by the Speaker of the House of Delegates or President of the Senate, as the case may

be, for the election of another person in his place, of which election, not less than ten days notice shall be given, exclusive of the day of the publication of the notice and of the day of election; and in case of such resignation or refusal to act, being communicated in writing, to the Governor, by the person making it, or if such death occur during the legislative recess and more than ten days before its termination, it shall be the duty of the Governor to issue a warrant of election to supply the vacancy thus created in the same manner that the said Speaker or President might have done during the session of the Legislature; provided, however, that unless a meeting of the General Assembly may intervene, the election thus ordered to fill such vacancy shall be held on the day of the ensuing election for delegates and senators.

30. The Senators and delegates shall receive a per diem of four dollars, and such mileage as may be allowed by law, and the presiding officer of each house shall be allowed an addition of one dollar per day. No book or other printed matter not appertaining to the business of the session, shall be purchased or subscribed for, for the use of the members or be distributed among them, at the public expense.

31. No law passed by the General Assembly shall take effect until the first day of June next after the session at which it may be passed, unless it be otherwise expressly declared therein.

32. No law shall be passed creating the office of Attorney-General.

33. The General Assembly shall have full power to exclude from the privilege of voting at elections, or of holding any civil or military office in this State, any person who may thereafter be convicted of perjury, bribery, or other felony, unless such person shall have been pardoned by the Executive.

34. Every bill, when passed by the General Assembly, and sealed with the Great Seal, shall be presented to the Governor, who shall sign the same in the presence of the presiding officers and chief clerks of the Senate and House of Delegates. Every law shall be recorded in the office of the Court of Appeals, and in due time be printed, published and certified under the Great Seal to the several courts in the same manner as has been heretofore usual in this State.

35. No person who may hereafter be a collector, receiver or holder of public moneys, shall be eligible as Senator or Delegate, or to any office of profit or trust under this State, until he shall have accounted for and paid into the treasury all sums on the books thereof, charged to and due by him.

36. Any citizen of this State who shall, after the adoption of this Constitution, either in or out of this State, fight a duel with deadly weapons, or send or accept a challenge so to do, or who shall act as second, or knowingly aid or assist in any manner those thus offending, shall ever thereafter be incapable of holding any office of trust or profit under this State.



37. No lottery grant shall ever hereafter be authorized by the Legislature.

38. The General Assembly shall pass laws necessary to protect the property of the wife from the debts of the husband during her life, and for securing the same to her issue after her death.

39. Laws shall be passed by the Legislature to protect from execution a reasonable amount of the property of a debtor, not exceeding in value the sum of five hundred dollars.

40. The Legislature shall, at its first session after the adoption of this Constitution, adopt some simple and uniform system of charges in the offices of clerks of courts and registers of wills in the counties of this State and the city of Baltimore, and for the collection thereof; provided, the amount of compensation to any of said officers shall not exceed the sum of twenty-five hundred dollars a year, over and above office expenses, and compensation to assistants; and provided, further, that such compensation of clerks, registers, assistants, and office expenses, shall always be paid out of the fees or receipts of the offices respectively.

41. The House of Delegates shall have the sole power of impeachment in all cases, but a majority of all the members must concur in an impeachment; all impeachments shall be tried by the Senate, and when sitting for that purpose they shall be on oath or affirmation to do justice according to the law and evidence, but no person shall be convicted without the concurrence of two-thirds of all the senators.

42. That it shall be the duty of the Legislature so soon as the public debt shall have been fully paid off, to cause to be transferred to the several counties and the city of Baltimore, stock in the internal improvement companies, equal to the amount respectively paid by each towards the erection and completion of said works, at the then market value of said stock.

43. The Legislature shall not pass any law abolishing the relation of master or slave, as it now exists in this State.

44. No person shall be imprisoned for debt.

45. The Legislature hereafter shall grant no charter for banking purposes, or renew any banking corporation now in existence, except upon the condition that the stockholders and directors shall be liable to the amount of their respective share or shares of stock in such banking institution for all its debts and liabilities upon note, bill or otherwise; and upon the further condition that no director or other officer of said corporation shall borrow any money from said corporation; and if any director or other officer shall be convicted upon indictment of directly or indirectly violating this article, he shall be punished by fine or imprisonment at the discretion of the Court. All banks shall be open to inspection of their books, papers and accounts, under such regulations as may be prescribed by law.

46. The Legislature shall enact no law authorizing private property to be taken for public use without just compensation as agreed

upon between the parties or awarded by a jury, being first paid or tendered to the party entitled to such compensation.

47. Corporations may be formed under general laws, but shall not be created by special act, except for municipal purposes, and in cases where, in the judgment of the Legislature, the object of the corporation cannot be attained under general laws. All laws and special acts pursuant to this section may be altered from time to time, or repealed; provided nothing herein contained shall be construed to alter, change or amend in any manner the article in relation to Banks.

48. The Legislature shall make provision for all cases of contested elections of any of the officers not herein provided for.

49. That the rate of interest in this State shall not exceed six per cent. per annum, and no higher rate shall be taken or demanded, and the Legislature shall provide, by law, all necessary forfeitures and penalties against usury.

#### ARTICLE IV.—*Judiciary Department.*

SEC. 1. The Judicial power of this State shall be vested in a Court of Appeals, in Circuit Courts, in such Courts for the city of Baltimore as may be hereinafter prescribed, and in Justices of the Peace.

2. The Court of Appeals shall have appellate jurisdiction only, which shall be co-extensive with the limits of the State. It shall consist of a chief justice and three associate justices, any three of whom shall form a quorum, whose judgment shall be final and conclusive in all cases of appeals; and who shall have the jurisdiction which the present Court of Appeals of this State now has, and such other appellate jurisdiction as hereafter may be provided for by law. And in every case decided, an opinion, in writing, shall be filed, and provision shall be made, by law, for publishing reports of cases argued and determined in the said court. The Governor, for the time being, by and with the advice and consent of the Senate, shall designate the chief justice, and the Court of Appeals shall hold its sessions at the city of Annapolis, on the first Monday of June, and the first Monday of December, in each and every year.

3. The Court of Appeals shall appoint its own clerk, who shall hold his office for six years, and may be re-appointed at the end thereof; he shall be subject to removal by the said court for incompetency, neglect of duty, misdemeanor in office, and for such other causes as may be prescribed by law.

4. The State shall be divided into four Judicial districts: Allegany, Washington, Frederick, Carroll, Baltimore, and Harford counties, shall compose the first; Montgomery, Howard, Anne Arundel, Calvert, St. Mary's, Charles and Prince George's, the second; Baltimore city, the third; and Cecil, Kent, Queen Anne's, Talbot, Caroline, Dorchester, Somerset, and Worcester, shall compose the fourth district. And one person from among those learned



in the law, having been admitted to practice in this State, and who shall have been a citizen of this State at least five years, and above the age of thirty years at the time of his election, and a resident of the judicial district, shall be elected from each of said districts by the legal and qualified voters therein, as a judge of the said Court of Appeals, who shall hold his office for the term of ten years from the time of his election, or until he shall have attained the age of seventy years, whichever may first happen, and be re-eligible thereto until he shall have attained the age of seventy years, and not after, subject to removal for incompetency, wilful neglect of duty, or misbehavior in office, on conviction in a court of law, or by the Governor upon the address of the General Assembly, two-thirds of the members of each house concurring in such address; and the salary of each of the Judges of the Court of Appeals shall be two thousand five hundred dollars annually, and shall not be increased or diminished during their continuance in office; and no fees or perquisites of any kind, shall be allowed by law to any of the said judges.

5. No Judge of the Court of Appeals shall sit in any case wherein he may be interested, or where either of the parties may be connected with him by affinity or consanguinity within such degrees as may be prescribed by law, or when he shall have been of counsel in said case; when the Court of Appeals, or any of its members shall be thus disqualified to hear and determine any case or cases in said court, so that by reason thereof no judgment can be rendered in said court, the same shall be certified to the Governor of the State, who shall immediately commission the requisite number of persons learned in the law for the trial and determination of said case or cases.

6. All Judges of the Court of Appeals, of the Circuit Courts, and of the Courts for the city of Baltimore, shall, by virtue of their offices, be conservators of the peace throughout the State.

7. All public commissions and grants shall run thus: "The State of Maryland," &c., and shall be signed by the Governor, with the seal of the State annexed; all writs and process shall run in the same style, and be tested, sealed and signed as usual; and all indictments shall conclude "against the peace, government and dignity of the State."

8. The State shall be divided into eight Judicial Circuits, in manner and form following, to wit: St. Mary's, Charles and Prince George's counties shall be the first; Anne Arundel, Howard, Calvert and Montgomery counties shall be the second; Frederick and Carroll counties shall be the third; Washington and Allegany counties shall be the fourth; Baltimore city shall be the fifth; Baltimore, Harford and Cecil counties shall be the sixth; Kent, Queen Anne's, Talbot and Caroline counties shall be the seventh; and Dorchester, Somerset and Worcester counties shall be the eighth; and there shall be elected, as hereinafter directed, for each of the said Judicial Circuits, except the fifth, one person from among those learned in the

law, having been admitted to practice in this State, and who shall have been a citizen of this State at least five years, and above the age of thirty years at the time of his election, and a resident of the Judicial Circuit to be Judge thereof; the said Judges shall be styled Circuit Judges, and shall respectively hold a term of their courts at least twice in each year, or oftener if required by law, in each county composing their respective circuits; and the said courts shall be called Circuit Courts for the county in which they may be held, and shall have and exercise in the several counties of this State, all the power, authority and jurisdiction which the county courts of this State now have and exercise, or which may hereafter be prescribed by law, and the said Judges in their respective circuits, shall have and exercise all the power, authority and jurisdiction of the present Court of Chancery of Maryland; provided, nevertheless, that Baltimore county court may hold its sittings within the limits of the city of Baltimore, until provision shall be made by law for the location of a county seat within the limits of the said county proper, and the erection of a court-house and all other appropriate buildings, for the convenient administration of justice in said court.

9. The Judges of the several judicial circuits shall be citizens of the United States, and shall have resided five years in this State, and two years in the judicial circuit for which they may be respectively elected, next before the time of their election, and shall reside therein while they continue to act as Judges; they shall be taken from among those who, having the other qualifications herein prescribed, are most distinguished for integrity, wisdom and sound legal knowledge, and shall be elected by the qualified voters of the said circuits, and shall hold their offices for the term of ten years, removable for misbehavior, on conviction in a court of law or by the Governor, upon the address of the General Assembly, provided that two-thirds of the members of each house shall concur in such address, and the said Judges shall each receive a salary of two thousand dollars a-year, and the same shall not be increased or diminished during the time of their continuance in office; and no judge of any court in this State, shall receive any perquisite, fee, commission or reward, in addition thereto, for the performance of any judicial duty.

10. There shall be established for the city of Baltimore one court of law, to be styled "the Court of Common Pleas," which shall have civil jurisdiction in all suits where the debt or damage claimed shall be over one hundred dollars, and shall not exceed five hundred dollars; and shall, also, have jurisdiction in all cases of appeal from the judgment of justices of the peace in the said city, and shall have jurisdiction in all applications for the benefit of the insolvent laws of this State, and the supervision and control of the trustees thereof.

11. There shall also be established, for the city of Baltimore, another court of law, to be styled the Superior Court of Baltimore city, which shall have jurisdiction over all suits where the debt or



damage claimed shall exceed the sum of five hundred dollars, and in case any plaintiff or plaintiffs shall recover less than the sum or value of five hundred dollars, he or they shall be allowed or adjudged to pay costs in the discretion of the court. The said court shall also have jurisdiction as a court of equity within the limits of the said city, and in all other civil cases which have not been heretofore assigned to the Court of Common Pleas.

12. Each of the said two courts shall consist of one Judge, who shall be elected by the legal and qualified voters of the said city, and shall hold his office for the term of ten years, subject to the provisions of this Constitution, with regard to the election and qualification of Judges and their removal from office, and the salary of each of the said Judges shall be twenty-five hundred dollars a-year; and the Legislature shall, whenever it may think the same proper and expedient, provide, by law, another court for the city of Baltimore, to consist of one Judge to be elected by the qualified voters of the said city, who shall be subject to the same constitutional provisions, hold his office for the same term of years, and receive the same compensation as the Judge of the Court of Common Pleas of the said city, and the said court shall have such jurisdiction and powers as may be prescribed by law.

13. There shall also be a criminal court for the city of Baltimore, to be styled the Criminal Court of Baltimore, which shall consist of one Judge, who shall also be elected by the legal and qualified voters of the said city, and who shall have and exercise all the jurisdiction now exercised by Baltimore city court, and the said Judge shall receive a salary of two thousand dollars a-year and shall be subject to the provisions of this Constitution with regard to the election and qualifications of Judges, term of office, and removal therefrom.

14. There shall be in each county a clerk of the Circuit Court, who shall be elected by the qualified voters of each county, and the person receiving the greatest number of votes shall be declared and returned duly elected clerk of said Circuit Court for the said county, and shall hold his office for the term of six years from the time of his election, and until a new election is held; shall be re-eligible thereto, and subject to removal for wilful neglect of duty, or other misdemeanor in office, on conviction in a court of law. There shall also be a clerk of the Court of Common Pleas in Baltimore city, and a clerk of the Superior Court of Baltimore city, and there shall also be a clerk of the Criminal Court of Baltimore city, and each of said clerks shall be elected as aforesaid by the qualified voters of the city of Baltimore, and shall hold his office for six years from the time of his election, and until a new election is held, and be re-eligible thereto, subject, in like manner, to be removed for wilful neglect of duty or other misdemeanor in office, on conviction in a court of law. In case of a vacancy in the office of a clerk, the Judge or Judges of the court, of which he was clerk, shall have the power

to appoint a clerk until the general election of delegates held next thereafter, when a clerk shall be elected to fill such vacancy.

15. The clerk of the Court of Common Pleas for Baltimore city, shall have authority to issue within the said city, all marriage and other licenses required by law, subject to such provisions as the Legislature shall hereafter prescribe; and the clerk of the Superior Court for said city, shall have the custody of all deeds, conveyances, and other papers now remaining in the office of the clerk of Baltimore county court, and shall hereafter receive and record all deeds, conveyances, and other papers which are required by law to be recorded in said city. He shall also have the custody of all other papers connected with the proceedings on the law or equity side of Baltimore county court, and of the dockets thereof, so far as the same have relation to Baltimore city.

16. That the clerk of the Court of Appeals, and the clerks of the Circuit Courts in the several counties, shall respectively perform all the duties and be entitled to the fees which appertain to the offices of the clerks of Court of Appeals for the Eastern and Western Shores and of the clerks of County Courts, and the clerks of the Court of Common Pleas, the Superior Court, and the Criminal Court for Baltimore city, shall perform all the duties appertaining to their respective offices, and heretofore vested in the clerks of Baltimore County County Court and Baltimore City Court respectively, and be entitled to all the fees now allowed by law; and all laws relating to the clerks of Court of Appeal, clerks of the several County Courts and Baltimore City Court, shall be applicable to the clerks respectively of the clerk of Court of Appeals, the Circuit Courts, the Court of Common Pleas, the Superior Court, and the Criminal Court of Baltimore city, until otherwise provided by law; and the said clerks, when duly elected and qualified according to law, shall have the charge and custody of the records and other papers belonging to their respective offices.

17. The qualified voters of the city of Baltimore, and of the several counties of the State, shall, on the first Wednesday of November, eighteen hundred and fifty-one, and on the same day of the same month in every fourth year forever thereafter, elect three men to be Judges of the Orphans' Court of said city and counties respectively, who shall be citizens of the State of Maryland, and citizens of the city or county for which they may be severally elected at the time of their election. They shall have all the powers now vested in the Orphans' Courts of this State, subject to such changes therein as the Legislature may prescribe, and each of said Judges shall be paid at a per diem rate, for the time they are in session, to be fixed by the Legislature, and paid by the said counties and city respectively.

18. There shall be a Register of Wills in each county of the State, and in the city of Baltimore, to be elected by the legal and qualified voters of said counties and city respectively, who shall hold his



office for six years from the time of his election, and until a new election shall take place, and be re-eligible thereto, subject to be removed for wilful neglect of duty, or misdemeanor in office, in the same manner that the clerks of the county courts are removable. In the event of any vacancy in the office of Register of Wills, said vacancy shall be filled by the Judges of the Orphans' Court until the general election next thereafter for Delegates to the General Assembly, when a Register shall be elected to fill such vacancy.

19. The Legislature at its first session after the adoption of this Constitution, shall fix the number of Justices of the Peace and Constables for each ward of the city of Baltimore, and for each election district in the several counties, who shall be elected by the legal and qualified voters thereof respectively, at the next general election for delegates thereafter, and shall hold their offices for two years from the time of their election, and until their successors in office are elected and qualified; and the Legislature may, from time to time, increase or diminish the number of Justices of the Peace and Constables to be elected in the several wards and election districts, as the wants and interests of the people may require. They shall be, by virtue of their offices, conservators of the peace in the said counties and city respectively, and shall have such duties and compensation as now exist, or may be provided for by law. In the event of a vacancy in the office of a Justice of the Peace, the Governor shall appoint a person to serve as Justice of the Peace, until the next regular election of said officers, and in case of a vacancy in the office of Constable, the County Commissioners of the county, in which a vacancy may occur, or the Mayor and City Council of Baltimore, as the case may be, shall appoint a person to serve as Constable until the next regular election thereafter for said officers. An appeal shall lie in all civil cases from the judgment of a Justice of the Peace to the Circuit Court, or to the Court of Common Pleas of Baltimore city, as the case may be, and on all such appeals, either party shall be entitled to a trial by jury, according to the laws now existing, or which may be hereafter enacted. And the Mayor and City Council may provide, by ordinance, from time to time, for the creation and government of such temporary additional police, as they may deem necessary to preserve the public peace.

20. There shall be elected in each county and in the city of Baltimore, every second year two persons for the office of sheriff for each county, and two for the said city, the one of whom having the highest number of votes of the qualified voters of said county or city, or if both have an equal number, either of them, at the discretion of the Governor, to be commissioned by the Governor for the said office, and, having served for two years, such person shall be ineligible for the two years next succeeding; bond with security, to be taken every year, and no sheriff shall be qualified to act before the same be given. In case of death, refusal, disqualification or removal out of the county, before the expiration of the said two years,

the other person chosen as aforesaid, shall be commissioned by the Governor to execute the said office for the residue of the said two years, the said person giving bond with security as aforesaid. No person shall be eligible to the office of sheriff but a resident of such county or city respectively, who shall have been a citizen of this State at least five years preceding his election, and above the age of twenty-one years. The two candidates, properly qualified, having the highest number of legal ballots, shall be declared duly elected for the office of sheriff for such county or city, and returned to the Governor, with a certificate of the number of ballots for each of them.

21. Coroners, Elisors and Notaries Public shall be appointed for each county and the city of Baltimore, in the manner now prescribed by law, or in such other manner as the General Assembly may hereafter direct.

22. No Judge shall sit in any case wherein he may be interested, or where either of the parties may be connected with him by affinity or consanguinity, within such degrees as may be prescribed by law, or where he shall have been of counsel in the case; and whenever any of the judges of the circuit courts, or of the courts for Baltimore city, shall be thus disqualified, or whenever, by reason of sickness, or any other cause, the said judges, or any of them, may be unable to sit in any case, the parties may, by consent, appoint a proper person to try the said cause, or the judges, or any of them, shall do so when directed by law.

23. The present Chancery and the Register in Chancery, and, in the event of any vacancy in their respective offices, their successors in office respectively, who are to be appointed as at present, by the Governor and Senate, shall continue in office, with the powers and compensation as at present established, until the expiration of two years after the adoption of this Constitution by the people, and until the end of the session of the Legislature next thereafter, after which the said offices of Chancery and Register shall be abolished. The Legislature shall, in the mean time, provide by law for the recording, safe-keeping, or other disposition, of the records, decrees, and other proceedings of the Court of Chancery, and for the copying and attestation thereof, and for the custody and use of the Great Seal of the State, when required, after the expiration of the said two years, and for transmitting to the said counties, and to the city of Baltimore, all the cases and proceedings in said Court then undisposed of and unfinished, in such manner, and under such regulations as may be deemed necessary and proper: Provided, that no new business shall originate in the said Court, nor shall any cause be removed to the same from any other court, from and after the ratification of this Constitution.

24. The first election of Judges, Clerks, Registers of Wills, and all other officers, whose election by the people is provided for in this article of the Constitution, except justices of the peace and con-



stables, shall take place throughout the State on the first Wednesday of November next after the ratification of this Constitution by the people.

25. In case of the death, resignation, removal, or other disqualification of a judge of any of the courts of law, the Governor, by and with the advice and consent of the Senate, shall thereupon appoint a person, duly qualified, to fill said office until the next general election for delegates thereafter; at which time an election shall be held as hereinbefore prescribed, for a judge, who shall hold the said office for ten years, according to the provisions of this Constitution.

26. In case of the death, resignation, removal, or other disqualification of the judge of an Orphans' Court, the vacancy shall be filled by the appointment of the Governor, by and with the advice and consent of the Senate.

27. Whenever lands lie partly in one county, and partly in another, or partly in a county and partly in the city of Baltimore, or whenever persons proper to be made defendants to proceedings in Chancery, reside some in one county and some in another, that court shall have jurisdiction in which proceedings shall have been first commenced, subject to such rules, regulations and alterations as may be prescribed by law.

28. In all suits or actions at law, issues from the Orphans' Court or from any court sitting in equity, in petitions for freedom, and in all presentments and indictments now pending, or which may be pending at the time of the adoption of this Constitution by the people, or which may be hereafter instituted in any of the courts of law of this State, having jurisdiction thereof, the judge or judges thereof, upon suggestion in writing, if made by the State's Attorney, or the prosecutor for the State, or upon suggestion in writing, supported by affidavit, made by any of the parties thereto, or other proper evidence, that a fair and impartial trial cannot be had in the court where such suit or action at law, issues or petitions, or presentment and indictment is depending, shall order and direct the record of proceedings in such suit or action, issues or petitions, presentment or indictment, to be transmitted to the court of any adjoining county; provided, that the removal in all civil causes be confined to an adjoining county within the judicial circuit, except as to the city of Baltimore, where the removal may be to an adjoining county, for trial, which court shall hear and determine the same in like manner as if such suit or action, issues or petitions, presentment or indictment, had been originally instituted therein; and provided also, that such suggestion shall be made as aforesaid, before or during the term in which the issue or issues may be joined in said suit or action, issues or petition, presentment or indictment, and that such further remedy in the premises may be provided by law, as the Legislature shall from time to time direct and enact.

29. All Election of judges, and other officers provided for by

this Constitution, shall be certified, and the returns made by the clerks of the respective counties to the Governor, who shall issue commissions to the different persons for the offices to which they shall have been respectively elected; and in all such elections, the person having the greatest number of votes, shall be declared to be elected.

30. If in any case of election for Judges, Clerks of the Courts of Law and Registers of Wills, the opposing candidates shall have an equal number of votes, it shall be the duty of the Governor to order a new election; and in case of any contested election, the Governor shall send the returns to the House of Delegates, who shall judge of the election and qualification of the candidates at such election.

31. Every person of good moral character, being a voter, shall be admitted to practice law in all the courts of law in this State, in his own case.

#### ARTICLE V.—*The State's Attorneys.*

SEC. 1. There shall be an attorney for the State in each county and the city of Baltimore, to be styled "The State's Attorney," who shall be elected by the voters thereof, respectively, on the first Wednesday of November next, and on the same day every fourth year thereafter, and hold his office for four years from the first Monday of January next ensuing his election, and until his successor shall be elected and qualified, and shall be re-eligible thereto, and be subject to removal therefrom for incompetency, wilful neglect of duty or misdemeanor in office, on conviction in a court of law.

2. All elections for the State's Attorney shall be certified to, and returns made thereof, by the clerks of the said counties and city to the Judges thereof having criminal jurisdiction, respectively, whose duty it shall be to decide upon the elections and qualifications of the persons returned, and in case of a tie between two or more persons, to designate which of said persons shall qualify as State's Attorney, and to administer the oaths of office to the persons elected.

3. The State's Attorney shall perform such duties and receive such fees and commissions as are now prescribed by law for the Attorney General and his deputies, and such other duties, fees and commissions as may hereafter be prescribed by law, and if any State's Attorney shall receive any other fee or reward than such as is, or may be allowed by law, he shall, on conviction thereof, be removed from office.

4. No person shall be eligible to the office of State's Attorney who has not been admitted to practice the law in this State, and who has not resided for at least one year in the county or city in which he may be elected.

5. In case of vacancy in the office of State's Attorney, or of his removal from the county or city in which he shall have been elected, or on his conviction as herein before specified, the said vacancy



shall be filled by the Judge of the county or city, respectively, having criminal jurisdiction in which said vacancy shall occur, until the election and qualification of his successor; at which election said vacancy shall be filled by the voters of the said county or city, for the residue of the term thus made vacant.

6. It shall be the duty of the clerk of the Court of Appeals, and the Commissioner of the Land Office, respectively, whenever a case shall be brought into said court or office, in which the State is a party, or has an interest, immediately to notify the Governor thereof.

#### ARTICLE VI.—*Treasury Department.*

SEC. 1. There shall be a Treasury Department, consisting of a Comptroller, chosen by the qualified electors of the State, at each election of members of the House of Delegates, who shall receive an annual salary of two thousand five hundred dollars; and of a treasurer, to be appointed by the two Houses of the Legislature, at each session thereof, on joint ballot, who shall also receive an annual salary of two thousand five hundred dollars; and neither of the said officers shall be allowed or receive any fees, commissions, or perquisites of any kind, in addition to his salary, for the performance of any duty or service whatever. In case of a vacancy in either of the offices, by death or otherwise, the Governor, by and with the advice and consent of the Senate, shall fill such vacancy by appointment, to continue until another election by the people, or a choice by the Legislature, as the case may be, and the qualification of the successor. The Comptroller and the Treasurer shall keep their offices at the seat of Government, and shall take such oath, and enter into such bonds, for the faithful discharge of their duties, as the Legislature shall prescribe.

2. The Comptroller shall have the general superintendence of the fiscal affairs of the State: he shall digest and prepare plans for the improvement and management of the revenue, and for the support of the public credit; prepare and report estimates of the revenue and expenditure of the State: superintend and enforce the collection of all taxes and revenue; adjust, settle and preserve all public accounts; decide on the forms of keeping and stating accounts; grant, under regulations prescribed by law, all warrants for moneys to be paid out of the Treasury, in pursuance of appropriations by law; prescribe the formalities of the transfer of stock or other evidences of the State debt; and countersign the same, without which such evidences shall not be valid; he shall make full reports of all his proceedings, and of the state of the Treasury Department within ten days after the commencement of each session of the Legislature, and perform such other duties as shall be prescribed by law.

3. The Treasurer shall receive and keep the moneys of the State, and disburse the same upon warrants drawn by the Comptroller, and not otherwise; he shall take receipts for all moneys paid by

him, and all receipts for moneys received by him shall be endorsed upon warrants signed by the Comptroller, without which warrant, so signed, no acknowledgment of money received into the Treasury shall be valid; and upon warrants issued by the Comptroller he shall make arrangements for the payment of the interest of the public debt, and for the purchase thereof, on account of the sinking fund. Every bond, certificate, or other evidence of the debt of the State, shall be signed by the Treasurer and countersigned by the Comptroller, and no new certificate or other evidence intended to replace another shall be issued until the old one shall be delivered to the Treasurer, and authority executed in due form for the transfer of the same shall be filed in his office, and the transfer accordingly made on the books thereof, and the certificate or other evidence cancelled; but the Legislature may make provision for the loss of certificates or other evidence of the debt.

4. The Treasurer shall render his accounts quarterly to the Comptroller; and on the third day of each session of the Legislature he shall submit to the Senate and House of Delegates fair and accurate copies of all accounts by him from time to time rendered and settled with the Comptroller. He shall at all times submit to the Comptroller, the inspection of the moneys in his hands, and perform all other duties that shall be prescribed by law.

#### ARTICLE VII.—*Sundry Officers.*

SEC. 1. At the first general election of Delegates to the General Assembly, after the adoption of this Constitution, four Commissioners shall be elected as hereinafter provided, who shall be styled "Commissioners of Public Works," and who shall exercise a diligent and faithful supervision of all public works, in which the State may be interested as stockholder or creditor, and shall represent the State in all meetings of the stockholders, and shall appoint the Directors in every Rail Road or Canal Company, in which the State has the constitutional power to appoint Directors. It shall also be the duty of the Commissioners of Public Works to review, from time to time, the rate of tolls adopted by any company; use all legal powers which they may possess to obtain the establishment of rates of tolls, which may prevent an injurious competition with each other, to the detriment of the interests of the State; and so to adjust them as to promote the agriculture of the State. It shall also be the duty of the said Commissioners of Public Works to keep a journal of their proceedings; and at each regular session of the Legislature to make to it a report, and to recommend such legislation as they shall deem necessary and requisite to promote or protect the interest of the State in the Public Works; and perform such other duties as may be prescribed by law. They shall each receive such salary as may be allowed by law, which shall not be increased or diminished during their continuance in office.



2. For the election of the Commissioners of Public Works, the State shall be divided into four districts. The counties of Allegany, Washington, Frederick, Carroll, Baltimore and Harford, shall constitute the first district. The counties of Montgomery, Howard, Anne Arundel, Calvert, St. Mary's, Charles and Prince George's, shall constitute the second district. Baltimore city shall constitute the third district. The counties of Cecil, Kent, Queen Anne's, Talbot, Caroline, Dorchester, Somerset, and Worcester, shall constitute the fourth district. One commissioner shall be elected in each district, who shall have been a resident thereof at least five years next preceding his election.

3. The said Commissioners shall be elected by the qualified voters of their districts respectively; the returns of their election shall be certified to the Governor, who shall, by proclamation, declare the result of the election. Two of the said commissioners, first elected, shall hold their office for four years, and the other two for two years from the first Monday of December next succeeding their election. And at the first meeting after their election, or as soon thereafter as practicable, they shall determine, by lot, who of their number shall hold their offices for four and two years respectively; and thereafter there shall be elected as aforesaid, at each general election of Delegates, two commissioners for the term of four years, to be taken from the districts respectively wherein the commissioners resided at the time of their election, whose term of service has expired. And in case of a vacancy in the office of either of said commissioners, by death, resignation, or otherwise, the Governor, by and with the advice and consent of the Senate, shall appoint some qualified person from the same district, to serve until the next general election of Delegates, when an election shall be held, as aforesaid, for a commissioner for the residue of said term. And in case of an equal division in the Board of Commissioners, on any subject committed to their charge, the Treasurer of the State shall have power, and shall be called on to decide the same. And in the event of a tie vote for any two of the candidates for the office of commissioner in the same district, it shall be the duty of the Governor to commission one or the other of the candidates having the equal number of votes. And if the Governor doubt the legality or result of any election held for said commissioners, it shall be his duty to send the returns of such election to the House of Delegates, who shall judge of the election and qualification of the candidates at such election.

4. During the continuance of the lottery system in this State, there shall be elected by the legal and qualified voters of the State, at every general election for delegates to the General Assembly, one Commissioner of Lotteries, who shall hold his office for two years, and till the qualification of his successor, and shall be re-eligible. His whole compensation shall be paid out of the fund raised for the Maryland Consolidated Lottery grants, and shall not exceed the amount of commissions received by one of the present Lottery Com

missioners, out of said fund; and he shall give such bond, for the faithful performance of his duties as is now given by the Lottery Commissioners. The term of the Commissioner, who shall be elected at the general election for Delegates next succeeding the adoption of this Constitution, shall commence at the expiration of the commissions of the present Lottery Commissioners, and continue for two years, and till the qualification of his successor.

5. From and after the first day of April, eighteen hundred and fifty-nine, no lottery scheme shall be drawn, for any purpose whatever, nor shall any lottery ticket be sold in this State; and it shall be the duty of the several commissioners elected under this Constitution, to make such contract or contracts as will extinguish all existing lottery grants before the said first day of April, eighteen hundred and fifty-nine, and also secure to the State a clear yearly revenue equal to the average amount derived by the State from the system for the last five years; but no such contract or contracts shall be valid until approved by the Treasurer and Comptroller.

6. There shall be a Commissioner of the Land Office elected by the qualified voters of the State, at the first general election of Delegates to the Assembly after the ratification of this Constitution, who shall hold his office for the term of six years from the first day of January next after his election. The returns of said election shall be made to the Governor, and in the event of a tie between any two or more candidates, the Governor shall direct a new election to be held by writs to the several sheriffs, who shall hold said election after at least twenty days notice, exclusive of the day of election. The said Commissioner shall sit as judge of the Land Office, and receive therefore the sum of two hundred dollars per annum, to be paid out of the State Treasury. He shall also perform the duties of the Register of the Land Office, and be entitled to receive therefore the fees now chargeable in said office; and he shall also perform the duties of Examiner General, and be entitled to receive therefore the fees now chargeable by said officer. The office of Register of the Land Office and Examiner General shall be abolished from and after the election and qualification of the Commissioner of the Land Office.

7 The State Librarian shall be elected by the joint vote of the two branches of the Legislature, for two years, and until his successor shall be elected and qualified. His salary shall be one thousand dollars per annum. He shall perform such duties as are now or may hereafter be prescribed by law.

8. The county authorities now known as Levy Courts or County Commissioners, shall hereafter be styled "County Commissioners," and shall be elected by general ticket, and not by districts, by the voters of the several counties, on the first Wednesday in November, one thousand eight hundred and fifty-one, and on the same day in every second year thereafter. Said Commissioners shall exercise such powers and duties only as the Legislature may from time to



time prescribe; but such powers and duties, and the tenure of office, shall be uniform throughout the State, and the Legislature shall, at or before its second regular session, after the adoption of this Constitution, pass such laws as may be necessary for determining the number for each county, and ascertaining and defining the powers, duties, and tenure of office of said Commissioners; and until the passage of such laws the Commissioners elected under this Constitution shall have and exercise all the powers and duties in their respective counties, now exercised by the county authorities under the laws of the State.

9. The General Assembly shall provide by law for the election of Road Supervisors, in the several counties, by the voters of the election districts respectively, and may provide by law for the election or appointment of such other county officers as may be required, and are not herein provided for, and prescribe their powers and duties; but the tenure of office, their powers and duties, and mode of appointment, shall be uniform throughout the State.

10. The qualified voters of each county, and the city of Baltimore, shall, at the first election of delegates after the adoption of this Constitution, and every two years thereafter, elect a Surveyor for the counties, and the city of Baltimore respectively, whose duties and compensation shall be the same as are now prescribed by law for the county and city surveyors respectively, or as may hereafter be prescribed by law. The term of office of said county and city surveyors respectively, shall commence on the first Monday of January next succeeding their election. And vacancies in said office of surveyors, by death, resignation, or removal from their respective counties or city, shall be filled by the Commissioners of the counties, or Mayor and City Council of Baltimore respectively.

11. The qualified voters of Worcester county shall, at the first election of delegates after the adoption of this Constitution, and every two years thereafter, elect a Wreck-Master for the said county, whose duties and compensation shall be the same as are now prescribed or may be hereafter prescribed by law. The term of office of said Wreck-Master shall commence on the first Monday of January next succeeding his election; and a vacancy in said office, by death, resignation, or removal from the county, shall be filled by the county commissioners of said county, for the residue of the term thus made vacant.

#### ARTICLE VIII.—*New Counties.*

SEC. 1. That part of Anne Arundel county called Howard District, is hereby erected into a new county, to be called Howard county, the inhabitants whereof shall have, hold and enjoy all such rights and privileges as are held and enjoyed by the inhabitants of the other counties in this State; and its civil and municipal officers, at the time of the ratification of this Constitution, shall continue in office until their successors shall have been elected or appointed,

and shall have qualified as such; and all rights, powers and obligations incident to Howard District of Anne Arundel county shall attach to Howard county.

2. When that part of Allegany county, lying south and west of a line beginning at the summit of Big Back Bone or Savage Mountain, where that mountain is crossed by Mason and Dixon's line, and running thence by a straight line, to the middle of Savage river where it empties into the Potomac river, thence by a straight line, to the nearest point or boundary of the State of Virginia; then with said boundary to the Fairfax stone, shall contain a population of ten thousand, and the majority of electors thereof shall desire to separate and form a new county, and make known their desire by petition to the Legislature, the Legislature shall direct at the next succeeding election, that the Judges shall open a book at each election district in said part of Allegany county, and have recorded therein the vote of each elector "For or Against" a new county. In case the majority are in favor, then said part of Allegany county to be declared an independent county, and the inhabitants whereof shall have, and enjoy all such rights and privileges as are held and enjoyed by the inhabitants of the other counties in this State. Provided, that the whole representation in the General Assembly of the county, when divided, shall not exceed the present delegation of Allegany county, allowed under this Constitution until after the next census.

#### ARTICLE IX.—*Militia.*

SEC. 1. It shall be the duty of the Legislature to pass laws for the enrolment of the Militia; to provide for districting the State into Divisions, Brigades, Battalions, Regiments, and Companies, and to pass laws for the effectual encouragement of volunteer corps by some mode which may induce the formation and continuance of at least one volunteer company in every county and division in the city of Baltimore. The company, battalion, and regimental officers (staff officers excepted) shall be elected by the persons composing their several companies, battalions and regiments.

2. The Adjutant General shall be appointed by the Governor, by and with the advice and consent of the Senate. He shall hold his office for the term of six years, and receive the same salary as heretofore, until changed by the Legislature.

#### ARTICLE X.—*Miscellaneous.*

SEC. 1. Every officer of this State, the Governor excepted, the entire amount of whose pay or compensation received for the discharge of his official duties shall exceed the yearly sum of three thousand dollars, shall keep a book, in which shall be entered every sum or sums of money received by him or on his account as a payment or compensation for his performance of official duties, a copy of which entries in said book, verified by the oath of the officer by whom it is directed to be kept, shall be returned yearly to the Trea-



suror of the State for his inspection and that of the General Assembly of Maryland; and each of such officers, when the amount received by him for the year shall exceed the sum of three thousand dollars, shall yearly pay over to the treasurer the amount of such excess by him received, subject to such disposition thereof as the Legislature may deem just and equitable. And any such officer failing to comply with the said requisition, shall be deemed to have vacated his office, and be subject to suit by the State for the amount that ought to have been paid into the treasury.

2. The Legislature shall have power to pass all such laws as may be necessary and proper for carrying into execution the powers vested by this Constitution, in any department or office of the Government, and the duties imposed upon them thereby.

3. If in any election directed by this Constitution any two or more candidates shall have the highest and an equal number of votes, a new election shall be ordered, unless in cases specially provided for by the Constitution.

4. The trial by jury of all issues of fact in civil proceedings, in the several courts of law in this State, where the amount in controversy exceeds the sum of five dollars, shall be inviolably preserved.

5. In the trial of all criminal cases the jury shall be the judges of law as well as fact.

6. The Legislature shall have power to regulate by law all matters which relate to the judges, time, place and manner of holding elections in this State, and of making returns thereof, provided that the tenure and term of office, and the day of election shall not be affected thereby.

7. All rights vested, and all liabilities incurred shall remain as if this Constitution had not been adopted.

8. The Governor and all officers, civil and military, now holding commissions under this State shall continue to hold and exercise their offices, according to their present tenure, until they shall be superseded, pursuant to the provisions of this Constitution, and until their successors be duly qualified.

9. The sheriffs of the several counties of this State, and of the city of Baltimore, shall give notice of the several elections authorized by this Constitution, in the manner prescribed by existing laws for elections under the present Constitution.

10. This Constitution, if adopted by a majority of the legal votes cast on the first Wednesday of June next, shall go into operation on the fourth day of July next, and on and after said day shall supersede the present Constitution of this State.

#### ARTICLE XI.—*Amendment of the Constitution.*

It shall be the duty of the Legislature, at its first session immediately succeeding the returns of every census of the United States, hereafter taken, to pass a law for ascertaining, at the next general

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election of Delegates, the sense of the people of Maryland in regard to the calling a Convention for altering the Constitution; and in case the majority of votes cast at said election shall be in favor of calling a Convention, the Legislature shall provide for assembling such Convention, and electing Delegates thereto at the earliest convenient day; and the Delegates to the said Convention shall be elected by the several counties of the State and the city of Baltimore, in proportion to their representation respectively in the Senate and House of Delegates, at the time when said Convention may be called.





## VIRGINIA.



OF the original thirteen colonies, this was the largest. It was named Virginia by Sir Walter Raleigh, in honor of Elizabeth, the Virgin Queen of England, who had granted him the country. He attempted to settle it, but failed. A grant was made of it to the London Company as early as 1606. Soon after, they sent out three ships with one hundred and five persons to begin a settlement. They located themselves at Jamestown, on the James river, in 1607. These adventurers suffered much for want of provisions, and in four months from the time of their landing, fifty of their little company had perished. In 1608, 120 new settlers arrived. In 1609, the London Company obtained a new charter, with greater power and privileges. When Charles II. was in exile, Va. invited him to become her King, which was prevented by his returning to England; hence Va. was called the *old dominion*. In 1619, the first legislative body ever held in America, met at Jamestown. As many had become dissatisfied, and contemplated returning to England, the London Company, in 1620, sent over more than ninety girls to be disposed of as wives among the young planters. At first the price was 100 lbs. of tobacco each, but the demand was so great, that it was increased to 160 lbs. The infant colony suffered much from the Indians, and for want of provisions; so that, in 1624, out of about 9000 persons who had come over, only 1800 were living.

In 1624 King James dissolved the London Company, assumed the government, and appointed a Governor. The colonists submitted reluctantly to this till 1636, when they took the government into their own hands, sending back to England the Governor appointed by the King. This State adopted its first Constitution in 1776, the second in 1830, the present one in 1851.

Virginia has the honor of being the birth-place of six of the Presidents of the United States, viz.: Washington, Jefferson, Madison, Monroe, Harrison, and Tyler.

Area, 64,000 sq. m. Pop. in 1850, 1,421,081, of which 473,026 are slaves. Free colored, 53,906.



## BILL OF RIGHTS.

[PASSED JUNE 12, 1776.]

ADOPTED WITHOUT ALTERATION BY THE CONVENTION OF 1829-'30, AND  
RE-ADOPTED WITH AMENDMENTS BY THE CONVENTION OF 1850-'51.

*A Declaration of Rights made by the Representatives of the good people of Virginia, assembled in full and free Convention, which rights do pertain to them and their posterity as the basis and foundation of government.*

1. That all men are by nature equally free and independent, and have certain inherent rights, of which, when they enter into a state of society, they cannot, by any compact, deprive or divest their posterity; namely, the enjoyment of life and liberty, with the means of acquiring and possessing property, and pursuing and obtaining happiness and safety.

2. That all power is vested in, and consequently derived from the people; that magistrates are their trustees and servants, and at all times amenable to them.

3. That government is, or ought to be instituted for the common benefit, protection and security of the people, nation or community: of all the various modes and forms of government, that is best which is capable of producing the greatest degree of happiness and safety, and is most effectually secured against the danger of mal-administration; and that, when any government shall be found inadequate or contrary to these purposes, a majority of the community hath an indubitable, unalienable and indefeasible right to reform, alter or abolish it, in such manner as shall be judged most conducive to the public weal.

4. That no man, or set of men are entitled to exclusive or separate emoluments or privileges from the community, but in consideration of public services, which, not being descendible, neither ought the offices of magistrate, legislator or judge to be hereditary.

5. That the legislative, executive and judicial powers should be separate and distinct; and that the members thereof may be restrained from oppression, by feeling and participating the burthens of the people, they should, at fixed periods, be reduced to a private station, return into that body from which they were originally taken, and the vacancie be supplied by frequent, certain and regular elections, in which all, or any part of the former members to be again eligible or ineligible, as the laws shall direct.

6. That all elections ought to be free, and that all men having sufficient evidence of permanent common interest with, and attachment to, the community, have the right of suffrage, and cannot be taxed or deprived of their property for public uses, without their own consent, or that of their representatives so elected, nor bound by any law to which they have not, in like manner, assented, for the public good.

7. That all power of suspending laws, or the execution of laws, by

any authority, without consent of the representatives of the people, is injurious to their rights, and ought not to be exercised.

8. That, in all capital or criminal prosecutions, a man hath a right to demand the cause and nature of his accusation, to be confronted with the accusers and witnesses, to call for evidence in his favor, and to a speedy trial by an impartial jury of twelve men of his vicinage, without whose unanimous consent he cannot be found guilty; nor can he be compelled to give evidence against himself; that no man be deprived of his liberty, except by the law of the land or the judgment of his peers.

9. That excessive bail ought not to be required, nor excessive fines imposed, nor cruel and unusual punishments inflicted.

10. That general warrants, whereby an officer or messenger may be commanded to search suspected places without evidence of a fact committed, or to seize any person or persons not named, or whose offence is not particularly described and supported by evidence, are grievous and oppressive, and ought not to be granted.

11. That, in controversies respecting property, and suits between man and man, the ancient trial by jury of twelve men is preferable to any other, and ought to be held sacred.

12. That the freedom of the press is one of the great bulwarks of liberty, and can never be restrained but by despotic governments.

13. That a well regulated militia, composed of the body of the people, trained to arms, is the proper, natural and safe defence of a free state; that standing armies, in time of peace, should be avoided as dangerous to liberty; and that in all cases the military should be under strict subordination to and governed by the civil power.

14. That the people have a right to uniform government; and therefore, that no government separate from, or independent of, the government of Virginia, ought to be erected or established within the limits thereof.

15. That no free government, or the blessing of liberty, can be preserved to any people, but by a firm adherence to justice, moderation, temperance, frugality and virtue, and by a frequent recurrence to fundamental principles.

16. That religion, or the duty which we owe to our Creator, and the manner of discharging it, can be directed only by reason and conviction, not by force or violence; and therefore all men are equally entitled to the free exercise of religion, according to the dictates of conscience; and that it is the mutual duty of all to practice christian forbearance, love and charity towards each other.

## CONSTITUTION.

Whereas, the Delegates and Representatives of the good people of Virginia, in Convention assembled, on the twenty-ninth day of June, in the year of our Lord one thousand seven hundred and seventy-six: reciting and declaring, that whereas, George the Third,



king of Great Britain and Ireland and Elector of Hanover, before that time entrusted with the exercise of the kingly office in the government of Virginia, had endeavored to pervert the same into a detestable and insupportable tyranny, by putting his negative on laws the most wholesome and necessary for the public good; by denying his governors permission to pass laws of immediate and pressing importance, unless suspended in their operation for his assent, and when so suspended neglecting to attend to them for many years; by refusing to pass certain other laws, unless the persons to be benefited by them would relinquish the inestimable right of representation in the legislature; by dissolving legislative assemblies repeatedly and continually, for opposing with manly firmness his invasions of the rights of the people; when dissolved, by refusing to call others for a long space of time, thereby leaving the political system without any legislative head; by endeavoring to prevent the population of our country, and for that purpose obstructing the laws for the naturalization of foreigners; by keeping among us, in time of peace, standing armies and ships of war; by affecting to render the military independent of and superior to the civil power; by combining with others to subject us to a foreign jurisdiction, giving his assent to their pretended acts of legislation, for quartering large bodies of armed troops among us, for cutting off our trade with all parts of the world, for imposing taxes on us without our consent, for depriving us of the benefits of the trial by jury, for transporting us beyond seas to be tried for pretended offences, for suspending our own legislatures and declaring themselves invested with power to legislate for us in all cases whatsoever; by plundering our seas, ravaging our coasts, burning our towns, and destroying the lives of our people; by inciting insurrections of our fellow subjects with the allurements of forfeiture and confiscation; by prompting our negroes to rise in arms among us, those very negroes, whom by an inhuman use of his negative he had refused us permission to exclude by law; by endeavoring to bring on the inhabitants of our frontiers the merciless Indian savages, whose known rule of warfare is an undistinguished destruction of all ages, sexes and conditions of existence; by transporting hither a large army of foreign mercenaries, to complete the work of death, desolation and tyranny, then already begun, with circumstances of cruelty and perfidy, unworthy the head of a civilized nation; by answering our repeated petitions for redress with a repetition of injuries; and finally, by abandoning the helm of government, and declaring us out of his allegiance and protection; by which several acts of misrule, the government of this country as before exercised under the crown of Great Britain, was totally dissolved: did, therefore, having maturely considered the premises, and viewing with great concern the deplorable condition to which this once happy country would be reduced, unless some regular adequate mode of civil polity should be speedily adopted, and in compliance with the recommen-

dation of the general Congress, ordain and declare a form of government of Virginia :

And whereas, a Convention held on the first Monday in October, in the year one thousand eight hundred and twenty-nine, did propose to the people of the commonwealth an amended Constitution or form of government, which was ratified by them :

And whereas, the General Assembly of Virginia, by an act passed on the fourth of March, in the year one thousand eight hundred and fifty, did provide for the election, by the people, of delegates to meet in general convention, to consider, discuss and propose a new Constitution or alterations and amendments to the existing Constitution of this Commonwealth ; and by an act, passed on the thirteenth of March, in the year one thousand eight hundred and fifty-one, did further provide for submitting the same to the people for ratification or rejection :

We, therefore, the Delegates of the good people of Virginia, elected and in Convention assembled, in pursuance of said acts, do propose to the people the following Constitution and Form of Government for this Commonwealth :

#### ARTICLE I.—*Bill of Rights.*

The Declaration of Rights, as amended and prefixed to this Constitution, shall have the same relation thereto as it had to the former Constitution.

#### ARTICLE II.—*Division of Powers.*

The Legislative, Executive and Judiciary Departments shall be separate and distinct, so that neither exercise the powers properly belonging to either of the others ; nor shall any person exercise the powers of more than one of them at the same time, except that justices of the peace shall be eligible to either House of Assembly.

#### ARTICLE III.—*Qualification of Voters.*

1. Every white male citizen of the Commonwealth, of the age of twenty-one years, who has been a resident of the State for two years, and of the county, city or town where he offers to vote for twelve months next preceding an election, and no other person, shall be qualified to vote for members of the General Assembly and all officers elective by the people : but no person in the military, naval or marine service of the United States shall be deemed a resident of this State, by reason of being stationed therein. And no person shall have the right to vote, who is of unsound mind, or a pauper, or a non-commissioned officer, soldier, seaman or marine in the service of the United States, or who has been convicted of bribery in an election, or of any infamous offence.

2. The General Assembly at its first session after the adoption of this Constitution, and afterwards as occasion may require, shall cause every city or town, the white population of which exceeds five thou-



sand, to be laid off into convenient wards, and a separate place of voting to be established in each, and thereafter no inhabitant of such city or town shall be allowed to vote except in the ward in which he resides.

3. No voter during the time for holding any election at which he is entitled to vote, shall be compelled to perform military service, except in time of war or public danger; to work upon the public roads, or to attend any court as suitor, juror or witness; and no voter shall be subject to arrest under any civil process during his attendance at elections, or in going to and returning from them.

4. In all elections votes shall be given openly, or *viva voce*, and not by ballot. But dumb persons, entitled to suffrage, may vote by ballot.

#### ARTICLE IV.—*Legislative Department.*

1. The Legislature shall be formed of two distinct branches, which together shall be a complete Legislature, and shall be called the General Assembly of Virginia.

##### HOUSE OF DELEGATES.

2. One of these shall be called the House of Delegates, and shall consist of one hundred and fifty-two members, to be chosen biennially for and by the several counties, cities, and towns of the Commonwealth, and distributed and apportioned as follows:

The Counties of Augusta and Rockingham and the city of Richmond shall each elect three delegates:

The Counties of Albemarle, Bedford, Berkeley, Campbell, Fauquier, Franklin, Frederick, Halifax, Hampshire, Harrison, Jefferson, Kanawha, Loudoun, Marion, Monongalia, Monroe, Norfolk, Pittsylvania, Preston, Rockbridge, Shenandoah and Washington shall each elect two delegates:

The Counties of Botetourt and Craig shall together elect two delegates:

The Counties of Accomac, Alexandria, Amherst, Appomattox, Barbour, Brunswick, Buckingham, Cabell, Caroline, Carroll, Charlotte, Chesterfield, Clarke, Culpepper, Dinwiddie, Fairfax, Floyd, Fluvanna, Giles, Gloucester, Goochland, Grayson, Greenbrier, Hanover, Hardy, Henrico, Henry, Highland, Isle of Wight, Jackson, King William, Lee, Lewis, Louisa, Lunenburg, Madison, Marshall, Mason, Mercer, Mecklenberg, Montgomery, Morgan, Nansemond, Nelson, Northampton, Page, Patrick, Pendleton, Pocahontas, Princess Anne, Prince Edward, Prince William, Pulaski, Putnam, Randolph, Rappahannock, Roanoke, Scott, Smyth, Southampton, Spottsylvania, Taylor, Upshur, Warren, Wayne, Wetzell, Wood, and Wythe, and the cities of Norfolk and Petersburg shall each elect one delegate:

The Counties of Lec and Scott in addition to the delegate to be elected by each, shall together elect one delegate.

The following counties and cities shall compose election districts: Alleghany and Bath: Amelia and Nottoway: Logan, Boone and Wyoming: Braxton and Nicholas: Charles City, James City and New Kent: Cumberland and Powhatan: Doddridge and Tyler: Elizabeth City, Warwick, York, and the City of Williamsburg: Essex, and King and Queen: Fayette and Raleigh: Gilmer and Wirt, Greene and Orange: Gretnesville and Sussex: King George and Stafford: Lancaster and Northumberland: Matthews and Middlesex: Pleasants and Ritchie: Prince George and Surry: and Richmond and Westmoreland: each of which districts shall elect one delegate.

At the first general election under this Constitution the County of Ohio shall elect three delegates, and the Counties of Brooke and Hancock shall together elect one delegate; at the second general election the County of Ohio shall elect two delegates and the Counties of Brooke and Hancock shall each elect one delegate; and so on, alternately, at succeeding general elections.

At the first general election the County of Russell shall elect two delegates, and the County of Tazewell shall elect one delegate; at the second general election the County of Tazewell shall elect two delegates and the County of Russell shall elect one delegate; and so on, alternately, at succeeding general elections.

The General Assembly shall have power upon application of a majority of the voters of the County of Campbell to provide, that instead of the two delegates to be elected by said County, the town of Lynchburgh shall elect one delegate and the residue of the County of Campbell shall elect one delegate.

3. The other house of the General Assembly shall be called the Senate, and shall consist of fifty members, to be elected for the term of four years; for the election of whom, the counties, cities, and towns shall be divided into fifty districts. Each county, city, and town of the respective districts, at the time of the first election of its delegate or delegates under this Constitution, shall vote for one Senator, and the Sheriffs or other officers holding the election for each county, city, and town, within five days at farthest after the last election in the district, shall meet at the Court House of the county or city first named in the district, and from the polls so taken in their respective counties, cities, and towns, return as Senator the person who has received the greatest number of votes in the whole district. Upon the assembling of the Senators so elected, they shall be divided into two equal classes, to be numbered by lot. The term of service of the Senators of the first class shall expire with that of the delegates first elected under this Constitution; and of the Senators of the second class at the expiration of two years thereafter: and this alternation shall be continued, so that one half of the Senators may be chosen every second year.



## SECTION IV.—THE SENATE.

I. For the election of Senators, the counties of Accomac and Northampton shall form one district :

II. The City of Norfolk shall be another district :

III. The counties of Norfolk and Princess Anne shall form another district :

IV. The counties of Isle of Wight, Nansemond, and Surry, shall form another district :

V. The counties of Sussex, Southampton, and Greenesville, shall form another district :

VI. The City of Petersburg and the County of Prince George shall form another district :

VII. The counties of Dinwiddie, Amelia, and Brunswick, shall form another district :

VIII. The counties of Powhatan, Cumberland, and Chesterfield, shall form another district :

IX. The counties of Lunenburg, Nottoway, and Prince Edward, shall form another district :

X. The counties of Mecklenburg and Charlotte shall form another district :

XI. The county of Pittsylvania shall be another district :

XII. The county of Halifax shall be another district :

XIII. The counties of Henry, Patrick, and Franklin, shall form another district.

XIV. The county of Bedford shall be another district :

XV. The counties of Campbell and Appomattox shall form another district :

XVI. The City of Williamsburg, and the counties of James City, Charles City, New Kent, York, Elizabeth City, and Warwick, shall form another district :

XVII. The counties of Henrico and Hanover shall form another district :

XVIII. The City of Richmond shall be another district :

XIX. The counties of Gloucester, Mathews, and Middlesex, shall form another district :

XX. The counties of Richmond, Lancaster, Northumberland and Westmoreland shall form another district :

XXI. The counties of King and Queen, King William and Essex, shall form another district :

XXII. The counties of Caroline and Spottsylvania shall form another district :

XXIII. The counties of Stafford, King George, and Prince William, shall form another district :

XXIV. The counties of Fairfax and Alexandria shall form another district :

XXV. The county of Loudoun shall be another district :

xxvi. The counties of Fauquier and Rappahannock shall form another district :

xxvii. The counties of Madison, Culpeper, Orange, and Greene, shall form another district :

xxviii. The county of Albermarle shall be another district :

xxix. The counties of Louisa, Goochland, and Fluvanna, shall form another district :

xxx. The counties of Nelson, Amherst, and Buckingham, shall form another district :

xxxi. The counties of Jefferson and Berkeley shall form another district :

xxxii. The counties of Hampshire, Hardy, and Morgan, shall form another district :

xxxiii. The counties of Frederick, Clarke, and Warren, shall form another district :

xxxiv. The counties of Shenandoah and Page shall form another district :

xxxv. The counties of Rockingham and Pendleton shall form another district :

xxxvi. The county of Augusta shall be another district :

xxxvii. The counties of Bath, Highland, and Rockbridge, shall form another district :

xxxviii. The counties of Botetourt, Alleghany, Roanoke, and Craig, shall form another district :

xxxix. The counties of Carroll, Floyd, Grayson, Montgomery, and Pulaski, shall form another district :

xl. The counties of Mercer, Monroe, Giles, and Tazewell, shall form another district :

xli. The counties of Smyth, Wythe, and Washington, shall form another district :

xlII. The counties of Scott, Lee, and Russell, shall form another district :

xlIII. The counties of Boone, Logan, Kanawha, Putnam, and Wyoming, shall form another district :

xlIV. The counties of Nicholas, Fayette, Pocahontas, Raleigh, Braxton, and Greenbrier, shall form another district :

xlV. The counties of Mason, Jackson, Cabell, Wayne, and Wirt, shall form another district :

xlVI. The counties of Ritchie, Doddridge, Harrison, Pleasants, and Wood, shall form another district :

xlVII. The counties of Wetzel, Marshall, Marion, and Tyler, shall form another district :

xlVIII. The counties of Upshur, Barbour, Lewis, Gilmer, and Randolph, shall form another district :

xlIX. The counties of Monongalia, Preston, and Taylor, shall form another district :

l. The counties of Brooke, Hancock and Ohio shall form another district.



## SECTION V.

5. It shall be the duty of the General Assembly in the year one thousand eight hundred and sixty-five, and in every tenth year thereafter, in case it can agree upon a principle of representation, to re-apportion representation in the Senate and House of Delegates in accordance therewith; and in the event the General Assembly, at the first or any subsequent period of re-apportionment, shall fail to agree upon a principle of representation and to re-apportion representation in accordance therewith, each House shall separately propose a scheme of representation, containing a principle or rule for the House of Delegates, in connection with a principle or rule for the Senate. And it shall be the duty of the General Assembly, at the same session, to certify to the Governor, the principles or rules of representation which the respective Houses may separately propose, to be applied in making re-apportionments in the Senate and in the House of Delegates: and the Governor shall, as soon thereafter as may be, by proclamation, make known the propositions of the respective Houses, and require the voters of the Commonwealth to assemble at such time as he shall appoint, at their lawful places of voting, and decide by their votes between the propositions thus presented. In the event the General Assembly shall fail, in the year one thousand eight hundred and sixty-five, or in any tenth year thereafter to make such re-apportionment or certificate, the Governor shall, immediately after the adjournment of the General Assembly, by proclamation, require the voters of the Commonwealth to assemble, at such time as he shall appoint, at their lawful places of voting, and to declare by their votes:

First, whether representation in the Senate and House of Delegates shall be apportioned on the "Suffrage Basis;" that is, according to the number of voters in the several counties, cities, towns and Senatorial districts of the Commonwealth:

Or second, whether representation in both Houses shall be apportioned on the "Mixed Basis;" that is, according to the number of white inhabitants contained, and the amount of all State taxes paid, in the several counties, cities and towns of the Commonwealth, deducting therefrom all taxes paid on licenses and law process, and any capitation tax on free negroes, allowing one delegate for every seventy-sixth part of said inhabitants, and one delegate for every seventy-sixth part of said taxes, and distributing the Senators in like manner:

Or third, whether representation shall be apportioned in the Senate on taxation; that is, according to the amount of all State taxes, paid in the several counties, cities and towns of the Commonwealth, deducting therefrom all taxes paid on licenses and law process, and any capitation tax on free negroes, and in the House of Delegates on the "Suffrage Basis" as aforesaid:

Or fourth, whether representation shall be apportioned in the Sen-

ate on the "Mixed Basis" as aforesaid, and in the House of Delegates on the "Suffrage Basis" as aforesaid: and each voter shall cast his vote in favor of one of said schemes of apportionment, and no more.

6. It shall be the duty of the Sheriffs and other officers taking said polls, to keep the same open for the period of three days, and within five days after they are closed, to certify true copies thereof to the Governor, who shall, as early as may be, ascertain the result of said vote, and make proclamation thereof; and in case it is ascertained that a majority of all the votes cast is in favor of either of the principles of representation, referred as aforesaid to the choice of the voters, the governor shall communicate the result of such vote to the general assembly at its first regular session thereafter; but in case it is ascertained that a majority of all the votes cast is not in favor of either of the principles of representation referred as aforesaid to the choice of the voters, it shall be the duty of the governor, as soon as may be after ascertaining that fact, in like manner to cause the voters to decide between the two principles of representation which shall, at such previous voting, have received the greatest number of votes; and he shall ascertain and make proclamation of the result of the said last vote, and communicate the same to the general assembly at its next regular session; and in either case, the General Assembly, at the regular session thereof which shall be held next after the taking of the vote, the result of which shall have been so communicated to it by the Governor, shall re-apportion representation in the two houses respectively in accordance with the principle of representation in each, for which a majority of the votes cast were given; and it shall be the duty of the General Assembly in every tenth year thereafter to re-apportion and distribute the number of senators and delegates in accordance with the same principle.

7. Any person may be elected Senator, who, at the time of election, has attained the age of twenty-five years, and is actually a resident within the district, and qualified to vote for members of the General Assembly, according to this Constitution. And any person may be elected a member of the House of the Delegates, who, at the time of election, has attained the age of twenty-one years, and is actually a resident within the county, city, town, or election district, qualified to vote for members of the General Assembly, according to this Constitution; but no person holding a lucrative office, no minister of the gospel or priest of any religious denomination, no salaried officer of any banking corporation or company, and no attorney for the Commonwealth, shall be capable of being elected a member of either house of Assembly. The removal of any person elected to either branch of the General Assembly from the county, city, town or district for which he was elected, shall vacate his office.

8. The General Assembly shall meet once in every two years, and not oftener, unless convened by the Governor in the manner prescribed in this Constitution. No session of the General Assembly,



after the first under this Constitution, shall continue longer than ninety days, without the concurrence of three-fifths of the members elected to each house, in which case, the session may be extended for a further period, not exceeding thirty days. Neither house, during the session of the General Assembly shall, without the consent of the other, adjourn for more than three days, nor to any other place than that in which the two houses shall be sitting. A majority of each house shall constitute a quorum to do business, but a smaller number may adjourn from day to day, and shall be authorized to compel the attendance of absent members in such manner and under such penalties as each house may provide.

9. The House of Delegates shall choose its own Speaker, and in the absence of the Lieutenant Governor, or when he shall exercise the office of Governor, the Senate shall choose from their own body, a president *pro tempore*: and each house shall appoint its own officers, settle its own rules of proceeding, and direct writs of election for supplying intermediate vacancies: but if vacancies shall occur during the recess of the General Assembly, such writs may be issued by the Governor, under such regulations as may be prescribed by law. Each house shall judge of the election, qualification and returns of its members, may punish them for disorderly behavior, and, with the concurrence of two-thirds, expel a member, but not a second time for the same offence.

10. The members of the Assembly shall receive for their services a compensation, to be ascertained by law, and paid out of the public treasury; but no act increasing such compensation shall take effect until after the end of the term for which the members of the House of Delegates voting thereon were elected. And no senator or delegate during the term for which he shall have been elected, shall be appointed to any civil office of profit under the Commonwealth, which has been created, or the emoluments of which have been increased, during such term, except offices filled by elections by the people.

11. Bills and resolutions may originate in either of the two houses of the General Assembly, to be approved or rejected by the other, and may be amended by either house, with the consent of the other.

12. Each house of the General Assembly shall keep a journal of its proceedings, which shall be published from time to time, and the yeas and nays of the members of either house, on any question, shall, at the desire of one-fifth of those present, be entered on the journal. No bill shall become a law, until it has been read on three different days of the session, in the house in which it originated, unless two-thirds of the members elected to that house, shall otherwise determine.

13. The whole number of members to which the State may at any time be entitled in the House of Representatives of the United States, shall be apportioned as nearly as may be, amongst the seve-

ral counties, cities and towns of the State, according to their respective numbers, which shall be determined by adding to the whole number of free persons, including those bound to service for a term of years, and excluding Indians not taxed, three-fifth of all other persons.

14. In the apportionment, the State shall be divided into districts corresponding in number with the representatives to which it may be entitled in the House of Representatives of the Congress of the United States, which shall be formed respectively of contiguous counties, cities and towns, be compact, and include, as nearly as may be, an equal number of the population, upon which is based representation in the House of Representatives of the United States.

15. The privilege of the writ of *habeas corpus* shall not, in any case, be suspended. The General Assembly shall not pass any bill of attainder; or any *ex post facto* law; or any law impairing the obligation of contracts; or any law whereby private property shall be taken for public uses without just compensation; or any law abridging the freedom of speech or of the press. No man shall be compelled to frequent or support any religious worship, place or ministry whatsoever; nor shall any man be enforced, restrained, molested or burthened in his body or goods, or otherwise suffer, on account of his religious opinions or belief; but all men shall be free to profess and by argument to maintain their opinions in matters of religion, and the same shall in no wise affect, diminish or enlarge their civil capacities. And the General Assembly shall not prescribe any religious test whatever; or confer any peculiar privileges or advantages on any sect or denomination; or pass any law requiring or authorizing any religious society, or the people of any district within this Commonwealth, to levy on themselves or others any tax for the erection or repair of any house for public worship, or for the support of any church or ministry; but it shall be left free to every person to select his religious instructor, and to make for his support such private contract as he shall please.

16. No law shall embrace more than one object, which shall be expressed in its title: nor shall any law be revived or amended by reference to its title, but the act revived, or section amended, shall be re-enacted and published at length.

17. The General Assembly may provide that no person shall be capable of holding, or being elected to, any post of profit, trust or emolument, civil or military, legislative, executive or judicial, under the government of this Commonwealth, who shall hereafter fight a duel, or send or accept a challenge to fight a duel, the probable issue of which may be the death of the challenger or challenged, or who shall be second to either party, or shall in any manner aid or assist in such duel, or shall be knowingly the bearer of such challenge or acceptance; but no person shall be so disqualified by reason of his having heretofore fought such duel, or sent or accepted such challenge, or been second in such duel, or bearer of such challenge or acceptance.



18. The Governor, Lieutenant Governor, Judges, and all others offending against the State, by mal-administration, corruption, neglect of duty, or other high crime or misdemeanor, shall be impeachable by the House of Delegates, and be prosecuted before the Senate, which shall have the sole power to try impeachments. When sitting for that purpose, they shall be on oath or affirmation; and no person shall be convicted, without the concurrence of two-thirds of the members present. Judgment in cases of impeachment shall not extend further than to removal from office, and disqualification to hold and enjoy any office of honor, trust or profit under the Commonwealth; but the party convicted shall nevertheless be subject to indictment, trial, judgment and punishment, according to law. The Senate may sit during the recess of the General Assembly for the trial of impeachments.

#### SLAVES AND FREE NEGROES.

19. Slaves hereafter emancipated shall forfeit their freedom by remaining in the Commonwealth more than twelve months after they become actually free, and shall be reduced to slavery, under such regulations as may be prescribed by law.

20. The General Assembly may impose such restrictions and conditions as they shall deem proper on the power of slave owners to emancipate their slaves; and may pass laws for the relief of the Commonwealth from the free negro population by removal or otherwise.

21. The General Assembly shall not emancipate any slave, or the descendant of any slave, either before or after the birth of such descendant.

#### TAXATION AND FINANCE.

22. Taxation shall be equal and uniform throughout the Commonwealth, and all property, other than slaves, shall be taxed in proportion to its value, which shall be ascertained in such manner as may be prescribed by law.

23. Every slave who has attained the age of twelve years shall be assessed with a tax equal to and not exceeding that assessed on land of the value of three hundred dollars. Slaves under that age shall not be subject to taxation; and other taxable property may be exempted from taxation, by the vote of a majority of the whole number of members elected to each house of the General Assembly.

24. A capitation tax, equal to the tax assessed on land of the value of two hundred dollars, shall be levied on every white male inhabitant who has attained the age of twenty-one years; and one equal moiety of the capitation tax upon white persons, shall be applied to the purposes of education in primary and free schools; but nothing herein contained shall prevent exemptions of taxable polls in cases of bodily infirmity.

25. The General Assembly may levy a tax on incomes, salaries

and licenses; but no tax shall be levied on property from which any income so taxed is derived, or on the capital invested in the trade or business in respect to which the license so taxed is issued.

26. No money shall be drawn from the treasury but in pursuance of appropriations made by law; and a statement of the receipts, disbursements, appropriations and loans shall be published after the adjournment of each session of the General Assembly, with the acts and resolutions thereof.

27. On the passage of every act which imposes, continues, or revives a tax, or creates a debt or charge, or makes, continues or revives any appropriation of public or trust money or property, releases, discharges, or commutes any claim or demand of the State, the vote shall be determined by yeas and nays, and the names of the persons voting for and against the same shall be entered on the journals of the respective houses, and a majority of all the members elected to each house shall be necessary to give it the force of a law.

28. The liability to the State of any incorporated company or institution, to redeem the principal and pay the interest of any loan heretofore made, or which may hereafter be made, by the State, to such company or institution, shall not be released; and the General Assembly shall not pledge the faith of the State, or bind it in any form, for the debts or obligations of any company or corporation.

29. There shall be set apart annually, from the accruing revenue, a sum equal to seven per cent. of the State debt existing on the first day of January in the year one thousand eight hundred and fifty-two. The fund thus set apart shall be called the Sinking Fund, and shall be applied to the payment of the interest of the State debt, and the principal of such part as may be redeemable. If no part be redeemable, then the residue of the Sinking Fund, after the payment of such interest, shall be invested in the bonds or certificates of debt of this Commonwealth, or of the United States, or of some of the States of this Union, and applied to the payment of the State debt, as it shall become redeemable. Whenever, after the said first day of January, a debt shall be contracted by the Commonwealth, there shall be set apart in like manner, annually, for thirty-four years, a sum exceeding by one per cent. the aggregate annual interest agreed to be paid thereon, at the time contracted, which sum shall be part of the Sinking Fund, and shall be applied in the manner before directed. The General Assembly shall not otherwise appropriate any part of the Sinking Fund or its accruing interest, except in time of war, insurrection or invasion.

30. The General Assembly may, at any time, direct a sale of the stocks held by the Commonwealth in internal improvement and other companies; but the proceeds of such sale, if made before the payment of the public debt, shall constitute a part of the Sinking Fund and be applied in like manner.

31. The General Assembly shall not contract loans or cause to be



issued certificates of debt or bonds of the State, irredecimable for a period greater than thirty-four years.

GENERAL PROVISIONS.

32. The General Assembly shall not grant a charter of incorporation to any church or religious denomination, but may secure the title to church property to an extent to be limited by law.

33. No lottery shall hereafter be authorized by law, and the buying, selling or transferring of tickets or chances in any lottery not now authorized by a law of this State, shall be prohibited.

34. No new county shall be formed with an area less than six hundred square miles; nor shall the county or counties from which it is formed be reduced below that area; nor shall any county, having a white population less than five thousand, be deprived of more than one-fifth of such population; nor shall a county having a larger white population be reduced below four thousand. But any county, the length of which is three times its mean breadth, or which exceeds fifty miles in length, may be divided at the discretion of the General Assembly. In all general elections the voters in any county, not entitled to separate representation, shall vote in the same election district.

35. The General Assembly shall confer on the courts the power to grant divorces, change the names of persons, and direct the sale of estates belonging to infants and other persons under legal disabilities, but shall not, by special legislation, grant relief in such cases, or in any other case of which the courts or other tribunals may have jurisdiction.

36. The General Assembly shall provide for the periodical registration in the several counties, cities and towns, of the voters therein, and for the annual registration of the births, marriages and deaths in the white population, and of the births and deaths in the colored population of the same, distinguishing between the numbers of free colored persons and slaves.

37. The General Assembly, at intervals of five years from the dates of the returns of the census of the United States, shall cause to be taken a census and such statistics of this State as may be prescribed by law; which census and statistics shall be returned to the Secretary of the Commonwealth, who shall compare and correct the returns and report the same to the General Assembly.

38. The manner of conducting and making returns of elections, of determining contested elections, and of filling vacancies in office, in cases not specially provided for by this Constitution, shall be prescribed by law; but special elections to fill vacancies in the office of Judge of any court shall be for a full term. And the General Assembly may declare the cases in which any office shall be deemed vacant, when no provision is made for that purpose in this Constitution.

ARTICLE V.—*Executive Department.*

## GOVERNOR.

1. The Chief Executive power of this Commonwealth shall be vested in a Governor. He shall hold the office for the term of four years, to commence on the — day of — next succeeding his election, and be ineligible to the same office for the term next succeeding that for which he was elected, and to any other office during his term of service.

2. The Governor shall be elected by the voters, at the times and places of choosing members of the General Assembly. Returns of the election shall be transmitted, under seal, by the proper officers to the Secretary of the Commonwealth, who shall deliver them to the Speaker of the House of Delegates, on the first day of the next session of the General Assembly. The Speaker of the House of Delegates shall within one week thereafter, in the presence of a majority of the Senate and House of Delegates, open the said returns, and the votes shall then be counted. The person having the highest number of votes shall be declared elected; but if two or more shall have the highest and an equal number of votes, one of them shall be chosen Governor by the joint vote of the two houses of the General Assembly. Contested elections for Governor shall be decided by a like vote, and the mode of proceeding in such cases shall be prescribed by law.

3. No person shall be eligible to the office of Governor unless he has attained the age of thirty years, is a native citizen of the United States, and has been a citizen of Virginia for five years next preceding his election.

4. The Governor shall reside at the seat of Government; shall receive five thousand dollars for each year of his service, and, while in office, shall receive no other emolument from this or any other government.

5. He shall take care that the laws be faithfully executed; communicate to the General Assembly at every session the condition of the Commonwealth; recommend to their consideration such measures as he may deem expedient; and convene the General Assembly on application of a majority of the members of both houses thereof, or when in his opinion the interest of the Commonwealth may require it. He shall be commander in chief of the land and naval forces of the State; have power to embody the militia to repel invasion, suppress insurrection and enforce the execution of the laws; conduct, either in person or in such other manner as shall be prescribed by law, all intercourse with other and foreign States; and, during the recess of the General Assembly, fill *pro tempore* all vacancies in those offices for which the Constitution and laws make no provision: but his appointments to such vacancies shall be by commissions to expire at the end of thirty days after the commencement of the next session of the General Assembly. He shall have



power to remit fines and penalties, in such cases and under such rules and regulations as may be prescribed by law; and, except when the prosecution has been carried on by the House of Delegates, or the law shall otherwise particularly direct, to grant reprieves and pardons after conviction, and to commute capital punishment. But he shall communicate to the General Assembly at each session, the particulars of every case of fine or penalty remitted, of reprieve or pardon granted and of punishment commuted, with his reasons for remitting, granting or commuting the same.

6. He may require information in writing from the officers in the Executive department upon any subject relating to the duties of their respective offices; and may also require the opinion in writing of the Attorney General upon any question of law connected with his official duties.

7. Commissions and grants shall run in the name of the Commonwealth of Virginia, and be attested by the Governor with the seal of the Commonwealth annexed.

#### LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR.

8. A Lieutenant Governor shall be elected at the same time, and for the same term, as the Governor: and his qualification and the manner of his election in all respects shall be the same.

9. In case of the removal of the Governor from office, or of his death, failure to qualify, resignation, removal from the State, or inability to discharge the powers and duties of the office, the said office, with its compensation, shall devolve upon the Lieutenant Governor; and the General Assembly shall provide by law for the discharge of the Executive functions in other necessary cases.

10. The Lieutenant Governor shall be President of the Senate, but shall have no vote; and while acting as such, shall receive a compensation equal to that allowed to the Speaker of the House of Delegates.

#### SECRETARY OF THE COMMONWEALTH, TREASURER AND AUDITOR.

11. A Secretary of the Commonwealth, Treasurer and an Auditor of Public Accounts shall be elected by the joint vote of the two houses of the General Assembly, and continue in office for the term of two years, unless sooner removed.

12. The Secretary shall keep a record of the official acts of the Governor, which shall be signed by the Governor and attested by the Secretary; and when required, he shall lay the same, and any papers, minutes and vouchers pertaining to his office, before either house of the General Assembly; and shall perform such other duties as may be prescribed by law.

13. The powers and duties of the Treasurer and Auditor shall be such as now are, or may be hereafter prescribed by law.

## BOARD OF PUBLIC WORKS.

14. There shall be a Board of Public Works, to consist of three Commissioners. The State shall be divided into three districts, containing as nearly as may be equal numbers of voters, and the voters of each district shall elect one Commissioner, whose term of office shall be six years; but of those first elected, one, to be designated by lot, shall remain in office for two years only, and one other, to be designated in like manner, shall remain in office for four years only.

15. The General Assembly, at its first session, after the adoption of this Constitution, shall provide for the election and compensation of the Commissioners, and the organization of the Board. The Commissioners first elected shall assemble on a day to be appointed by law, and decide by lot the order in which their terms of service shall expire.

16. The Board of Public Works shall appoint all officers employed on the public works, and all persons representing the interest of the Commonwealth in works of internal improvement, and shall perform such other duties as may be prescribed by law.

17. The members of the Board of Public Works may be removed by the concurrent vote of a majority of all the members elected to each house of the General Assembly; but the cause of removal shall be entered on the journal of each house.

18. The General Assembly shall have power, by a vote of three-fifths of the members elected to each house, to abolish said board whenever in their opinion a board of public works shall no longer be necessary.

## MILITIA.

19. The manner of appointing militia officers shall be prescribed by law.

ARTICLE VI.—*Judiciary Department.*

1. There shall be a Supreme Court of Appeals, District Courts and Circuit Courts. The jurisdiction of these tribunals, and of the Judges thereof, except so far as the same is conferred by this Constitution, shall be regulated by law.

## JUDICIAL DIVISIONS.

2. The State shall be divided into twenty-one judicial circuits, ten districts and five sections.

I. The counties of Princess Anne, Norfolk, Nansemond, Isle of Wight, Southampton, Greensville, Surry and Sussex and the city of Norfolk shall constitute the first circuit.

II. The counties of Prince George, Dinwiddie, Brunswick, Mecklenburg, Lunenburg, Nottoway, Amelia, Chesterfield and Powhatan and the City of Petersburg shall constitute the second circuit.

III. The counties of Cumberland, Buckingham, Appomattox,



Campbell, Prince Edward, Charlotte and Halifax and the town of Lynchburg shall constitute the third eircuit.

iv. The counties of Pittsylvania, Bedford, Franklin, Patrick and Henry shall constitute the fourth eircuit.

v. The counties of Accomae and Northampton shall constitute the fifth circuit.

vi. The counties of Elizabeth City, Warwick, York, Gloucester, Mathews, Middlesex, Henrico, New Kent, Charles City and James City, and the City of Williamsburg shall constitute the sixth eircuit.

vii. The City of Richmond shall be the seventh eircuit.

viii. The counties of Lancaster, Northumberland, Richmond, Westmoreland, King George, Spottsylvania, Caroline, Hanover, King William, King and Queen and Essex shall constitute the eighth circuit.

ix. The counties of Stafford, Prince William, Alexandria, Fairfax, Loudoun, Fauquier and Rappahannock shall constitute the ninth circuit.

x. The counties of Culpeper, Madison, Greene, Orange, Albemarle, Louisa, Fluvanna and Goochland shall constitute the tenth circuit.

xi. The counties of Nelson, Amherst, Rockbridge, Augusta and Bath shall constitute the eleventh eircuit :

xii. The counties of Pendleton, Highland, Rockingham, Page, Shenandoah, Warren and Hardy shall constitute the twelfth circuit :

xiii. The counties of Clarke, Frederick, Hampshire, Morgan, Berkeley and Jefferson shall constitute the thirteenth eircuit :

xiv. The counties of Monroe, Greenbrier, Pocahontas, Alleghany, Botetourt, Roanoke and Craig shall constitute the fourteenth circuit :

xv. The counties of Giles, Merceer, Raleigh, Wyoming, Logan, Boone, Fayette and Nicholas shall constitute the fifteenth circuit :

xvi. The counties of Grayson, Carroll, Wythe, Floyd, Pulaski and Montgomery shall constitute the sixteenth eircuit :

xvii. The counties of Smyth, Tazewell, Washington, Russell, Scott and Lee shall constitute the seventeenth eircuit :

xviii. The counties of Wayne, Cabell, Mason, Jackson, Putnam and Kanawha shall constitute the eighteenth circuit.

xix. The counties of Wood, Wirt, Gilmer, Braxton, Lewis, Ritchie, Doddridge and Pleasants shall constitute the nineteenth circuit :

xx. The counties of Hancock, Brooke, Ohio, Marshall, Wetzel, Tyler and Monongalia shall constitute the twentieth eircuit :

xxi. And the counties of Harrison, Marion, Taylor, Preston, Barbour, Randolph and Upshur shall constitute the twenty-first circuit.

1. The first and second circuits shall constitute the first district ; the third and fourth circuits, the second district ; the fifth, sixth and seventh circuits, the third district ; the eighth and ninth circuits, the

fourth district; the tenth and eleventh circuits, the fifth district; the twelfth and thirteenth circuits, the sixth district; the fourteenth and fifteenth circuits, the seventh district; the sixteenth and seventeenth circuits, the eighth district; the eighteenth and nineteenth circuits, the ninth district; and the twentieth and twenty-first circuits, the tenth district.

2. The first and second districts shall constitute the first section; the third and fourth districts, the second section; the fifth and sixth districts, the third section; the seventh and eighth districts, the fourth section; and the nine and tenth districts, the fifth section.

3. The General Assembly may, at the end of eight years after the adoption of this Constitution, and thereafter at intervals of eight years, re-arrange the said circuits, districts and sections, and place any number of circuits in a district, and of districts, in a section; but each circuit shall be altogether in one district, and each district in one section; and there shall not be less than two districts and four circuits in a section, and the number of sections shall not be increased or diminished.

#### CIRCUIT COURTS.

6. For each circuit, a Judge shall be elected by the voters thereof, who shall hold his office for the term of eight years, unless sooner removed in the manner prescribed by this Constitution. He shall at the time of his election be at least thirty years of age, and during his continuance in office, shall reside in the circuit of which he is judge.

7. A Circuit Court shall be held at least twice a year by the Judge of each circuit, in every county and corporation thereof, wherein a Circuit Court is now or may hereafter be established. But the Judges in the same district may be required or authorized to hold the courts of their respective circuits alternately, and a Judge of one circuit to hold a court in any other circuit.

#### DISTRICT COURTS.

8. A District Court shall be held, at least once a year, in every district, by the Judges of the circuits constituting the section and the Judge of the Supreme Court of Appeals for the section of which the district forms a part, any three of whom may hold a court; but no Judge shall sit or decide upon any appeal taken from his own decision. The Judge of the Supreme Court of Appeals of one section, may sit in the District Courts of another section, when required or authorized by law to do so.

9. The district courts shall not have original jurisdiction, except in cases of *habeas corpus*, *mandamus* and *prohibition*.

#### COURTS OF APPEALS.

10. For each section, a Judge shall be elected by the voters thereof, who shall hold his office for the term of twelve years, unless



sooner removed in the manner prescribed by this Constitution. He shall at the time of his election be at least thirty-five years of age, and during his continuance in office, reside in the section for which he is elected.

11. The Supreme Court of Appeals shall consist of the five Judges so elected, any three of whom may hold a court. It shall have appellate jurisdiction only, except in cases of *habeas corpus*, *mandamus* and *prohibition*. It shall not have jurisdiction in civil causes where the matter in controversy, exclusive of costs, is less in value or amount than five hundred dollars, except in controversies concerning the title or boundaries of land, the probat of a will, the appointment or qualification of a personal representative, guardian, committee or curator; or concerning a mill, road, way, ferry or landing, or the right of a corporation or of a county to levy tolls or taxes; and except in cases of *habeas corpus*, *mandamus* and *prohibition*, and cases involving freedom, or the constitutionality of a law.

12. Special Courts of Appeals, to consist of not less than three nor more than five Judges, may be formed of the Judges of the Supreme Court of Appeals, and of the Circuit Courts, or any of them, to try any cases remaining on the dockets of the present Court of Appeals when the Judges thereof cease to hold their offices; or to try any cases which may be on the dockets of the Supreme Court of Appeals established by this Constitution, in respect to which a majority of the Judges of said court may be so situated as to make it improper for them to sit on the hearing thereof.

13. When a judgment or decree is reversed or affirmed by the Supreme Court of Appeals, the reasons therefor shall be stated in writing, and preserved with the record of the case.

#### GENERAL PROVISIONS.

14. Judges shall be commissioned by the Governor, and shall receive fixed and adequate salaries, which shall not be diminished during their continuance in office. The salary of a Judge of the Supreme Court of Appeals shall not be less than three thousand dollars and that of a Judge of a Circuit Court not less than two thousand dollars *per annum*, except that of the Judge of the fifth circuit, which shall not be less than fifteen hundred dollars *per annum*; and each shall receive a reasonable allowance for necessary travel.

15. No Judge during his term of service shall hold any other office, appointment or public trust, and the acceptance thereof shall vacate his judicial office; nor shall he during such term, or within one year thereafter, be eligible to any political office.

16. No Election of Judge shall be held within thirty days of the time of holding any election of Electors of President and Vice President of the United States, of Members of Congress or of the General Assembly.

17. Judges may be removed from office by a concurrent vote of both houses of the General Assembly, but a majority of all the

members elected to each house must concur in such vote; and the cause of removal shall be entered on the journal of each house. The judge, against whom the General Assembly may be about to proceed, shall receive notice thereof, accompanied by a copy of the causes alleged for his removal, at least twenty days before the day on which either house of the General Assembly shall act thereupon.

18. The officers of the Supreme Court of Appeals and of the District Courts shall be appointed by the said Courts respectively, or by the Judges thereof in vacation. Their duties, compensation, and tenure of office, shall be prescribed by law.

19. The voters of each county or corporation in which a Circuit Court is held shall elect a clerk of such court, whose term of office shall be six years. The Attorney for the Commonwealth elected for a county or corporation wherein a Circuit Court is directed to be held, shall be attorney for the Commonwealth for that court. But in case a Circuit Court is held for a City, or for a County and City, there shall be an Attorney for the Commonwealth for such Court, to be elected by the voters of such City, or County and City, and to continue in office for the term of four years. The duties and compensation of these officers, and the mode of removing them from office, shall be prescribed by law.

20. When a vacancy shall occur in the office of clerk of any court, such court may appoint a clerk *pro tempore*, who shall discharge the duties of the office until the vacancy is filled.

21. The General Assembly shall provide for the compensation of jurors, but appropriations for that purpose, shall not be made from the State treasury, except in prosecutions for felony and misdemeanor.

22. At every election of a Governor, an attorney general shall be elected by the voters of the Commonwealth, for the term of four years. He shall be commissioned by the Governor, shall perform such duties and receive such compensation as may be prescribed by law, and be removable in the manner prescribed for the removal of Judges.

23. Judges and all other officers, whether elected or appointed, shall continue to discharge the duties of their respective offices after their terms of service have expired, until their successors are qualified.

24. Writs shall run in the name of the Commonwealth of Virginia and be attested by the clerks of the several courts. Indictments shall conclude, against the peace and dignity of the Commonwealth.

#### COUNTY COURTS.

25. There shall be in each county of the Commonwealth, a County Court, which shall be held monthly, by not less than three, nor more than five Justices, except when the law shall require the presence of a greater number.



26. The jurisdiction of the said court shall be the same as that of the existing County Courts, except so far as it is modified by this Constitution or may be changed by law.

27. Each County shall be laid off into districts, as nearly equal as may be in territory and population. In each district there shall be elected by the voters thereof, four Justices of the Peace, who shall be commissioned by the Governor, reside in their respective districts, and hold their office for the term of four years. The justices so elected shall choose one of their own body, who shall be the presiding Justice of the County Court, and whose duty it shall be to attend each term of said court. The other justices shall be classified by law for the performance of their duties in court.

28. The Justices shall receive for their services in court, a *per diem* compensation, to be ascertained by law, and paid out of the County treasury; and shall not receive any fee or emolument for other judicial services.

29. The power and jurisdiction of Justices of the Peace within their respective Counties shall be prescribed by law.

#### COUNTY OFFICERS.

30. The voters of each County shall elect a Clerk of the County Court, a Surveyor, an Attorney for the Commonwealth, a Sheriff, and so many Commissioners of the Revenue as may be authorized by law, who shall hold their respective offices as follows: The Clerk, and the Surveyor, for the term of six years; the Attorney, for the term of four years; the Sheriff, and the Commissioners, for the term of two years. Constables, and Overseers of the Poor, shall be elected by the voters, as may be prescribed by law.

31. The officers mentioned in the preceding section, except the Attorneys, shall reside in the Counties or Districts for which they were respectively elected. No person elected for two successive terms to the office of Sheriff, shall be re-eligible to the same office for the next succeeding term; nor shall he, during his term of service, or within one year thereafter, be eligible to any political office.

32. The Justices of the Peace, Sheriffs, Attorneys for the Commonwealth, Clerks of the Circuit and County Courts, and all other County officers, shall be subject to indictment for malfeasance, misfeasance, or neglect of official duty, and upon conviction thereof, their offices shall become vacant.

#### CORPORATION COURTS AND OFFICERS.

33. The General Assembly may vest such jurisdiction as shall be deemed necessary in Corporation Courts, and in the Magistrates who may belong to the corporate body.

34. All officers appertaining to the Cities and other Municipal Corporations, shall be elected by the qualified voters, or appointed by the constituted authorities of such Cities or Corporations, as may be prescribed by law.

Done in Convention, in the city of Richmond, on the first day of August, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and fifty-one, and in the seventy-sixth year of the Commonwealth of Virginia.

JOHN Y. MASON,  
*President of the Convention.*

S. D. WHITTLE,  
*Secretary of the Convention.*

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## SCHEDULE.

1. It shall be the duty of the President of this Convention, immediately on its adjournment, to certify to the Governor a copy of the Bill of Rights and Constitution adopted, together with this Schedule.

2. Upon the receipt of such certified copy, the Governor shall, forthwith, announce the fact by Proclamation, to be published in such newspapers of the State as may be deemed requisite for general information: and, shall annex to his Proclamation a copy of the Bill of Rights and Constitution, together with this Schedule: which Proclamation, Bill of Rights, Constitution and Schedule, shall be published in the manner indicated, for the period of one month; and ten printed copies thereof shall, by the Secretary of the Commonwealth, be immediately transmitted, by mail, to the Clerk of each County and Corporation Court in this Commonwealth, to be by such Clerk submitted to the examination of any person desiring the same.

3. The Officers authorized by existing laws to conduct General Elections, shall, at the places appointed for holding the same, open a Poll Book on the Fourth Thursday in October next, to be headed "The Constitution as amended, and Schedule," and to contain two separate columns; the first column to be headed "For Ratifying;" the other, to be headed, "For Rejecting." And such officers, keeping said Polls open for the space of three days, shall then and there receive, and record in said Poll Book, the votes for and against this Constitution and Schedule, of all persons qualified, under the existing or amended Constitution to exercise the right of suffrage.

4. The taking of the polls, the duties to be performed by the officers, the privilege of the voters, and the penalties attaching for misconduct on the part of any person, shall be, in all things, as prescribed by the second, third, fourth, seventh, eighth and ninth sections of the act of the General Assembly, passed March the fourth, one thousand eight hundred and fifty, entitled "An act to take the sense of the people upon the call of a Convention, and providing for organizing the same," so far as the provisions of said sections may be applicable.

5. It shall be the duty of the Governor, upon receiving the returns of said officers, to ascertain the result thereof, and forthwith to declare the same by his Proclamation, stating the aggregate vote in the State for and against the ratification of the amended Constitution and Schedule which shall be published at least once a week until the second Monday in December next, in such newspapers as, in his opinion, will be best calculated to diffuse general information thereof: and if it appear that a majority of the votes cast is in favor of ratification, the Governor, at the same time, and in like manner, shall make Proclamation for holding, on the day last mentioned, a General Election throughout the State for Delegates and Senators to the General Assembly, according to the apportionment and districts prescribed in this Constitution; and also for the election of a Governor, Lieutenant Governor, and Attorney General.

6. The officers authorized by existing laws to hold and conduct General Elec-



tions, shall hold and conduct the elections herein required, and such officers and all other persons shall be governed and controlled therein by the provisions of said laws, so far as the same may be applicable to, and necessary for, the proper conducting of the said elections. Duplicate polls shall be separately kept for Governor and Lieutenant Governor, for Attorney General, and for Senators and Delegates to the General Assembly, which shall be verified by the oaths of the officers conducting the elections.

7. The verified duplicate polls for Governor, Lieutenant Governor and Attorney General, shall be deposited with the Clerks of the several Counties and Cities, who shall retain one in their respective offices, and transmit the other, by mail, to the Secretary of the Commonwealth.

8. In the election of Senators and Delegates for districts formed of more than one County and City, the officers conducting the same, at the court-houses of the several Counties and Cities forming each District, shall assemble on the eighth day after the commencement of the said election at the court-house of the County or City first named as one of the Counties of the District, shall compare the polls and ascertain the result: and shall deliver and return certificates of election according to the laws now in force.

9. The members of the General Assembly so elected shall meet at the Capitol, in the City of Richmond, on the second Monday in January, in the year one thousand, eight hundred and fifty-two, and then and there organize as the General Assembly of Virginia; but before such organization, they shall respectively take the oath of fidelity to the Commonwealth, and the other oaths of office required by the laws now in force.

10. The election of Members of the General Assembly under this Constitution shall vacate the seats of those elected under the present Constitution.

11. The official terms of the Delegates first elected to the General Assembly under this Constitution shall expire on the thirtieth day of June, in the year one thousand eight hundred and fifty-three.

12. The official terms of the first Governor, Lieutenant Governor and Attorney General elected under this Constitution, shall expire on the thirty-first day of December, in the year one thousand eight hundred and fifty-five.

13. The present Judges of the Supreme Court of Appeals and of the Circuit Courts, and their successors, who may be appointed under the existing Constitution, shall remain in office until such time as the law may prescribe for the commencement of the official terms of the Judges under the amended Constitution and no longer: which time, shall not be more than six months after the termination of the first session of the General Assembly under the amended Constitution.

14. The Executive Department of the Government shall remain as at present organized; and the Governor and Councillors of State and their successors appointed under the existing Constitution, shall continue in office until a Governor elected under this Constitution shall be qualified; and all other persons in office when this Constitution is adopted, except as is herein otherwise expressly directed, shall continue in office until their successors are qualified: and vacancies in office, happening before such qualification, shall be filled in the manner now prescribed by law.

15. All the Courts of Justice now existing shall continue with their present jurisdiction until and except so far as the Judicial system may or shall be otherwise organized; and all laws in force when this Constitution is adopted, and not inconsistent therewith, and all rights, prosecutions, actions, claims and contracts shall remain and continue as if this Constitution was not adopted.

16. The General Assembly shall pass all laws necessary for carrying this Constitution into full effect and operation.

Done in Convention, in the city of Richmond, on the first day of August, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and fifty-one, and in the seventy-sixth year of the Commonwealth of Virginia.

S. D. WHITTLE,  
*Secretary of the Convention.*

JOHN Y. MASON,  
*President of the Convention.*

## NORTH CAROLINA.



SIR ROBERT HEATH, in 1630, obtained a grant of a territory south of Virginia, which was named Carolina. The first settlement made in this State was at Albemarle, by emigrants from Virginia. These persons fled from religious persecution in Virginia, and here for many years they enjoyed freedom and plenty. As Sir R. Heath had not complied with the conditions of his title, in 1663 this territory was granted to Lord Clarendon and others. They organized a government on very liberal principles, and adopted a Constitution which was prepared by the celebrated John Locke. This Constitution provided that the Governor should hold his office during life, and that the office should be hereditary. This Constitution created great disorder in the colony, and was abolished in 1693. In 1729 the Crown purchased from the proprietors the Carolinas for £17,500 sterling, and established two separate governments, called North and South Carolina. In 1776 this State adopted its Constitution, which, with a few modifications, continues to the present time.

Area, 48,000 sq. miles. Pop. in 1850, 868,903. Slaves, 288,412. Free colored, 27,271,

### CONSTITUTION.

ART. I. The legislative authority shall be vested in two distinct branches, both dependent on the people, *to wit*, a *Senate* and *House of Commons*.

II. The Senate shall be composed of representatives, annually chosen by ballot, one for each county in the State.

III. The House of Commons shall be composed of representatives, annually chosen by ballot, two for each county, and one for



each of the towns of Edenton, Newbern, Wilmington, Salisbury, Hillsborough, and Halifax.

IV. The Senate and House of Commons, assembled for the purpose of legislation, shall be denominated the General Assembly.

V. Each member of the Senate shall have usually resided in the county in which he is chosen for one year immediately preceding his election, and for the same time shall have possessed, and continue to possess, in the county which he represents, not less than three hundred acres of land in fee.

VI. Each member of the House of Commons shall have usually resided in the county in which he is chosen for one year immediately preceding his election, and for six months shall have possessed, and continue to possess, in the county which he represents, not less than one hundred acres of land in fee, or for the term of his own life.

VII. All freemen of the age of twenty-one years, who have been inhabitants of any one county within the State twelve months immediately preceding the day of any election, and possessed of a freehold, within the same county, of fifty acres of land, for six months next before, and at the day of election, shall be entitled to vote for a member of the Senate.

VIII. All freemen of the age of twenty-one years, who have been inhabitants of any one county within the State twelve months immediately preceding the day of any election, and shall have paid public taxes, shall be entitled to vote for members of the House of Commons, for the county in which he resides.

IX. All persons possessed of a freehold, in any town in this State, having a right of representation, and also all freemen, who have been inhabitants of any such town twelve months next before, and at the day of election, and shall have paid public taxes, shall be entitled to vote for a member to represent such town in the House of Commons: provided, always, that this section shall not entitle any inhabitant of such town to vote for members of the House of Commons for the county in which he may reside; nor any freeholder in such county, who resides without or beyond the limits of such town, to vote for a member of the said town.

X. The Senate and House of Commons, when met, shall each have power to choose a Speaker and other their officers; be judges of the qualifications and elections of their members; sit upon their own adjournments from day to day; and prepare bills to be passed into laws. The two houses shall direct writ of election, for supplying intermediate vacancies: and shall also jointly, by ballot, adjourn themselves to any future day and place.

XI. All bills shall be read three times in each house, before they pass into laws, and be signed by the speakers of both houses.

XII. Every person, who shall be chosen a member of the Senate or House of Commons, or appointed to any office or place of trust, before taking his seat, or entering upon the execution of his office,

shall take an oath to the State: and all officers shall take an oath of office.

XIII. The General Assembly shall, by joint ballot of both houses, appoint judges of the supreme courts of law and equity, judges of admiralty, and attorney-general, who shall be commissioned by the Governor, and hold their offices during good behavior.

XIV. The Senate and House of Commons shall have power to appoint the generals and field officers of the militia, and all officers of the regular army of this State.

XV. The Senate and House of Commons, jointly, at their first meeting after each annual election, shall by ballot, elect a Governor for one year, who shall not be eligible to that office longer than three years, in six successive years; that no person under thirty years of age, and who has not been a resident in this State above five years, and having, in the State, a freehold in lands and tenements, above the value of one thousand pounds, shall be eligible as a Governor.

XVI. The Senate and House of Commons, jointly, at their first meeting, after each annual election, shall, by ballot, elect seven persons to be a Council of State for one year; who shall advise the Governor in the execution of his office: and that four members shall be a quorum; their advice and proceedings shall be entered in a journal, to be kept for that purpose only, and signed by the members present; to any part of which any member present may enter his dissent. And such journal shall be laid before the General Assembly when called for by them.

XVII. There shall be a seal of this State, which shall be kept by the Governor, and used by him as occasion may require; and shall be called, *the great seal of the State of North Carolina*, and shall be affixed to all grants and commissions.

XVIII. The Governor, for the time being, shall be captain-general and commander-in-chief of the militia; and in the recess of the General Assembly, shall have power, by and with the advice of the Council of State, to embody the militia for the public safety.

XIX. The Governor, for the time being, shall have power to draw for and apply such sums of money as shall be voted by the General Assembly, for the contingencies of government, and be accountable to them for the same. He also may, by and with the advice of the Council of State, lay embargoes, or prohibit the exportation of any commodity, for any term not exceeding thirty days, at any one time in the recess of the General Assembly; and shall have the power of granting pardons and reprieves, except where the prosecution shall be carried on by the General Assembly, or the law shall otherwise direct; in which case he may, in the recess, grant a reprieve until the next sitting of the General Assembly; and he may exercise all the other executive powers of government, limited and restrained, as by this Constitution is mentioned, and according to the laws of the State. And, on his death, inability, or absence from the State



the Speaker of the Senate, for the time being, and in case of his death, inability, or absence from the State, the Speaker of the House of Commons, shall exercise the powers of government, after such death, or during such absence or inability of the Governor, or Speaker of the Senate, or until a new nomination is made by the General Assembly.

XX. In every case where any officer, the right of whose appointment is by this Constitution vested in the General Assembly, shall, during their recess, die, or his office by other means become vacant, the Governor shall have power, with the advice of the Council of State, to fill up such vacancy, by granting a temporary commission, which shall expire at the end of the next session of the General Assembly.

XXI. The Governor, judges of the supreme court of law and equity, judges of admiralty, and attorney-general, shall have adequate salaries, during their continuance in office.

XXII. The General Assembly shall, by joint ballot of both houses, annually appoint a treasurer or treasurers for this State.

XXIII. The Governor, and other officers offending against the State, by violating any part of this Constitution, maladministration, or corruption, may be prosecuted, on the impeachment of the General Assembly, or presentment of the grand jury of any court of supreme jurisdiction in this State.

XXIV. The General Assembly shall, by joint ballot of both houses, triennially appoint a Secretary for this State.

XXV. No persons who heretofore have been, or hereafter may be receivers of public moneys, shall have a seat in either house of General Assembly, or be eligible to any office in this State, until such person shall have fully accounted for, and paid into the treasury, all sums for which they may be accountable and liable.

XXVI. No treasurer shall have a seat, either in the Senate, House of Commons, or Council of State, during his continuance in that office, or before he shall have finally settled his accounts with the public, for all the moneys which may be in his hands, at the expiration of his office, belonging to the State, and hath paid the same into the hands of the succeeding treasurer.

XXVII. No officer in the regular army or navy, in the service and pay of the United States, of this State, or any other State, nor any contractor or agent for supplying such army or navy with clothing or provisions, shall have a seat either in the Senate, House of Commons, or Council of State, or be eligible thereto; and any member of the Senate, House of Commons, or Council of State, being appointed to, and accepting of such office, shall thereby vacate his seat.

XXVIII. No member of the Council of State shall have a seat, either in the Senate or House of Commons.

XXIX. No judge of the supreme court of law and equity or judge of admiralty, shall have a seat in the Senate, House of Commons, or Council of State.

XXX. No Secretary of this State, Attorney-General, or clerk of any court of record, shall have a seat in the Senate, House of Commons, or Council of State.

XXXI. No clergyman, or preacher of the gospel, of any denomination, shall be capable of being a member of either the Senate, House of Commons, or Council of State, while he continues in the exercise of his pastoral function.

XXXII. No person who shall deny the being of God, or the truth of the Protestant religion, or the divine authority of either the Old or New Testaments, or who shall hold religious principles incompatible with the freedom and safety of the State, shall be capable of holding any office, or place of trust or profit, in the civil department, within this State.

XXXIII. The justices of the peace, within their respective counties in this State, shall in future be recommended to the Governor for the time being, by the representatives in General Assembly; and the Governor shall commission them accordingly: and the justices, when so commissioned, shall hold their offices during good behavior, and shall not be removed from office by the General Assembly, unless for misbehavior, absence, or inability.

XXXIV. There shall be no establishment of any one religious church or denomination in this State, in preference to any other; neither shall any person, on any pretence whatsoever, be compelled to attend any place of worship contrary to his own faith or judgment, nor be obliged to pay for the purchase of any glebe, or the building of any house of worship, or for the maintainance of any minister or ministry, contrary to what he believes right, or has voluntarily and personally engaged to perform; but all persons shall be at liberty to exercise their own mode of worship: provided, that nothing herein contained shall be construed to exempt preachers of treasonable or seditious discourses, from legal trial and punishment.

XXXV. No person in the State shall hold more than one lucrative office at any one time; provided that no appointment in the militia, or the office of a justice of the peace, shall be considered as a lucrative office.

XXXVI. All commissions and grants shall run in the name of the State of North Carolina, and bear test, and be signed by the Governor. All writs shall run in the same manner, and bear test, and be signed by the clerks of the respective courts. Indictments shall conclude, *against the peace and dignity of the State*.

XXXVII. The delegates for this State to the Continental Congress, while necessary, shall be chosen annually by the General Assembly, by ballot; but may be superseded, in the mean time, in the same manner; and no person shall be elected to serve in that capacity for more than three years successively.

XXXVIII. There shall be a sheriff, coroner, or coroners, and constables, in each county within this State

XXXIX. The person of a debtor, where there is not a strong pre-



sumption of fraud, shall not be continued in prison after delivering up, *bona fide*, all his estate, real and personal, for the use of his creditors, in such manner as shall hereafter be regulated by law. All prisoners shall be bailable by sufficient sureties, unless for capital offences, when the proof is evident, or the presumption great.

XL. Every foreigner who comes to settle in this State, having first taken an oath of allegiance to the same, may purchase, or by other just means, acquire, hold, and transfer land, or other real estate, and after one year's residence be deemed a free citizen.

XLI. A school or schools shall be established by the Legislature, for the convenient instruction of youth, with such salaries to the masters, paid by the public, as may enable them to instruct at low prices; and, all useful learning shall be duly encouraged and promoted in one or more universities.

XLII. No purchase of lands shall be made of the Indian natives, but on behalf of the public, by authority of the General Assembly.

XLIII. The future Legislature of this State shall regulate entails, in such a manner as to prevent perpetuities.

XLIV. The declaration of rights is hereby declared to be part of the Constitution of this State, and ought never to be violated on any pretence whatsoever.

XLV. Any member of either house of General Assembly shall have liberty to dissent from and protest against any act or resolve which he may think injurious to the public, or any individual, and have the reasons of his dissent entered on the journals.

XLVI. Neither house of the General Assembly shall proceed upon public business, unless a majority of all the members of such house are actually present; and that upon a motion made and seconded, the yeas and nays, upon any question, shall be taken and entered on the journals: and that the journals of the proceedings of both houses of the General Assembly shall be printed, and made public, immediately after their adjournment.

This Constitution is not intended to preclude the present Congress from making a temporary provision, for the well ordering of this State, until the General Assembly shall establish government agreeable to the mode herein before described.

## AMENDMENTS TO THE CONSTITUTION,

*Made in Convention, June 4, 1835, and ratified by the People, November 9, to take effect January 1, 1836.*

### ARTICLE I.

SEC. I.—1. The Senate of this State shall consist of fifty representatives, biennially chosen by ballot, and to be elected by districts; which districts shall be laid off by the General Assembly, at its first session after the year one thousand eight hundred and forty-one; and afterwards, at its first session after the year one thousand eight hundred and fifty-one; and then every twenty

years thereafter, in proportion to the public taxes paid into the treasury of the State, by the citizens thereof; and the average of the public taxes paid by each county into the treasury of the State, for the five years preceding the laying off of the districts, shall be considered as its proportion of the public taxes, and constitute the basis of apportionment: Provided that no county shall be divided in the formation of a senatorial district. And when there are one or more counties having an excess of taxation above the ratio to form a senatorial district, adjoining a county or counties deficient in such ratio, the excess or excesses aforesaid shall be added to the taxation of the county or counties deficient; and if, with such addition, the county or counties receiving it shall have the requisite ratio, such county and counties each shall constitute a senatorial district.

2. The House of Commons shall be composed of one hundred and twenty representatives, biennially chosen by ballot, to be elected by counties according to their federal population, that is, according to their respective numbers, which shall be determined by adding to the whole number of free persons, including those bound to service for a term of years, and excluding Indians not taxed, three-fifths of all other persons; and each county shall have at least one member in the House of Commons, although it may not contain the requisite ratio of population.

3. This apportionment shall be made by the General Assembly, at the respective times and periods when the districts for the Senate are hereinbefore directed to be laid off; and the said apportionment shall be made according to an enumeration to be ordered by the General Assembly, or according to the census which may be taken by order of Congress, next preceding the making such apportionment.

4. In making the apportionment in the House of Commons, the ratio of representation shall be ascertained by dividing the amount of federal population in the State, after deducting that comprehended within those counties which do not severally contain the one hundred-and-twentieth part of the entire federal population aforesaid, by the number of representatives less than the number assigned to the said counties. To each county containing the said ratio, and not twice the said ratio, there shall be assigned one representative; to each county containing twice, but not three times the said ratio, there shall be assigned two representatives, and so on progressively; and then the remaining representatives shall be assigned severally to the counties having the largest fractions.

SEC. II—1. Until the first session of the General Assembly, which shall be had after the year eighteen hundred and forty-one, the Senate shall be composed of members to be elected from the several districts hereinafter named, that is to say, the first district shall consist of the counties of Perquimons and Pasquotank; the 2d district, of Camden and Currituck; the 3d district, Gates and Chowan; the 4th district, Washington and Tyrrell; the 5th district, Northampton; the 6th district, Hertford; the 7th district, Bertie; the



8th district, Martin; the 9th district, Halifax; the 10th district, Nash; the 11th district, Wake; the 12th district, Franklin; the 13th district, Johnston; the 14th district, Warren; the 15th district, Edgecomb; the 16th district, Wayne; the 17th district, Green and Lenoir; the 18th district, Pitt; the 19th district, Beaufort and Hyde; the 20th district, Carteret and Jones; the 21st district, Craven; the 22d district, Chatham; the 23d district, Granville; the 24th district, Person; the 25th district, Cumberland; the 26th district, Sampson; the 27th district, New-Hanover; the 28th district, Duplin; the 29th district, Onslow; the 30th district, Brunswick, Bladen, and Columbus; the 31st district, Robeson and Richmond; the 32d district, Anson; the 33d district, Cabarrus; the 34th district, Moore and Montgomery; the 35th district, Caswell; the 36th district, Rockingham; the 37th district, Orange; the 38th district, Randolph; the 39th district, Guilford; the 40th district, Stokes; the 41st district, Rowan; the 42d district, Davidson; the 43d district, Surry; the 44th district, Wilkes and Ashe; the 45th district, Burke and Yancy; the 46th district, Lincoln; the 47th district, Iredell; the 48th district, Rutherford; the 49th district, Buncombe, Haywood and Macon; the 50th district, Mecklenburg:—each district to be entitled to one senator.

2. Until the first session of the General Assembly after the year eighteen hundred and forty-one, the House of Commons shall be composed of members elected from the counties in the following manner, viz.: The counties of Lincoln and Orange shall elect four members each. The counties of Burke, Chatham, Granville, Guilford, Halifax, Iredell, Mecklenburg, Rowan, Rutherford, Surry, Stokes, and Wake shall elect three members each. The counties of Anson, Beaufort, Bertie, Buncombe, Cumberland, Craven, Caswell, Davidson, Duplin, Edgecomb, Franklin, Johnston, Montgomery, New-Hanover, Northampton, Person, Pitt, Randolph, Robeson, Richmond, Rockingham, Sampson, Warren, Wayne, and Wilkes shall elect two members each. The counties of Ashe, Bladen, Brunswick, Camden, Columbus, Chowan, Currituck, Carteret, Cabarrus, Gates, Greene, Haywood, Hertford, Hyde, Jones, Lenoir, Macon, Moore, Martin, Nash, Onslow, Pasquotank, Perquimons, Tyrrell, Washington, and Yancy shall elect one member each.

SEC. III—1. Each member of the Senate shall have usually resided in the district for which he is chosen for one year immediately preceding his election, and for the same time shall have possessed and continue to possess in the district which he represents, not less than three hundred acres of land in fee.

2. All free men of the age of twenty-one years, (except as is hereinafter declared) who have been inhabitants of any one district within the State twelve months immediately preceding the day of any election, and possessed of a freehold within the same district of fifty acres of land, for six months next before and at the day of election, shall be entitled to vote for a member of the Senate.

3. No free negro, free mulatto, or free person of mixed blood, descended from negro ancestors to the fourth generation inclusive, (though one ancestor of each generation may have been a white person,) shall vote for members of the Senate or House of Commons.

SEC. IV.—1. In the election of all officers, whose appointment is conferred on the General Assembly by the Constitution, the votes shall be *viva voce*.

2. The General Assembly shall have power to pass laws regulating the mode of appointing and removing militia officers.

3. The General Assembly shall have power to pass general laws regulating divorce and alimony, but shall not have power to grant a divorce or secure alimony in any individual case.

4. The General Assembly shall not have power to pass any private law to alter the name of any person, or to legitimate any persons not born in lawful wedlock, or to restore to the rights of citizenship any person convicted of an infamous crime; but shall have power to pass general laws regulating the same.

5. The General Assembly shall not pass any private law, unless it shall be made to appear that thirty days notice of application to pass such law shall have been given, under such directions and in such manner as shall be provided by law.

6. If vacancies shall occur by death, resignation or otherwise, before the meeting of the General Assembly, writs may be issued by law. the Governor, under such regulations as may be prescribed by

7. The General Assembly shall meet biennially, and at each biennial session shall elect, by joint vote of the two houses, a Secretary of State, Treasurer, and Council of State, who shall continue in office for the term of two years.

## ARTICLE II.

SEC. 1. The Governor shall be chosen by the qualified voters for the members of the House of Commons, at such time and places as members of the General Assembly are elected.

2. He shall hold his office for the term of two years from the time of his installation, and until another shall be elected and qualified; but he shall not be eligible more than four years in any term of six years.

3. The returns of every election for Governor shall be sealed up and transmitted to the seat of government, by the returning officers, directed to the Speaker of the Senate, who shall open and publish them in the presence of a majority of the members of both houses of the General Assembly. The person having the highest number of votes shall be Governor; but if two or more shall be equal and highest in votes, one of them shall be chosen Governor by joint vote of both houses of the General Assembly.

4. Contested elections for Governor shall be determined by both houses of the General Assembly, in such manner as shall be prescribed by law.

5. The Governor elect shall enter on the duties of the office on



the first day of January next after his election, having previously taken the oaths of office in the presence of the members of both branches of the General Assembly, or before the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court, who, in case the Governor elect should be prevented from attendance before the General Assembly, by sickness or other unavoidable cause, is authorized to administer the same.

### ARTICLE III.

SEC. I.—1. The Governor, judges of the Supreme Court, and judges of the Superior Courts, and all other officers of this State, (except justices of the peace and militia officers,) may be impeached for wilfully violating any article of the Constitution, maladministration, or corruption.

2. Judgment in cases of impeachment shall not extend further than to remove from office and disqualification to hold and enjoy any office of honor, trust, or profit under this State; but the party convicted may nevertheless be liable to indictment, trial, judgment, and punishment, according to law.

3. The House of Commons shall have the sole power of impeachment. The Senate shall have the sole power to try all impeachments. No person shall be convicted upon any impeachment, unless two-thirds of the senators present shall concur in such conviction; and before the trial of any impeachment, the members of the Senate shall take an oath or affirmation truly and impartially to try and determine the charge in question, according to evidence.

SEC. II.—1. Any judge of the Supreme Court, or of the Superior Courts, may be removed from office for mental or physical inability, upon a concurrent resolution of two-thirds of both branches of the General Assembly. The judge against whom the Legislature may be about to proceed, shall receive notice thereof, accompanied by a copy of the causes alleged for his removal, at least twenty days before the day on which either branch of the General Assembly shall act thereon.

The salaries of the judges of the Supreme Court, or of the Superior Courts, shall not be diminished during their continuance in office.

SEC. III. Upon the conviction of any justice of the peace of any infamous crime, or of corruption or mal-practice in office, the commission of such justice shall be thereby vacated, and he shall be forever disqualified from holding such appointment.

SEC. IV. The General Assembly, at its first session after the year one thousand eight hundred and thirty-nine, and from time to time thereafter, shall appoint an Attorney-General, who shall be commissioned by the Governor, and shall hold his office for the term of four years; but if the General Assembly should hereafter extend the term during which solicitors of the State shall hold their offices, then they shall have power to extend the term of office of the Attorney-General to the same period.

## ARTICLE IV.

SEC. I.—1. No convention of the people shall be called by the General Assembly, unless by the concurrence of two-thirds of all the members of each house of the General Assembly.

2. No part of the Constitution of this State shall be altered, unless a bill to alter the same shall have been read three times in each house of the General Assembly, and agreed to by three-fifths of the whole number of members of each house respectively; nor shall any alteration take place until the bill so agreed to shall have been published six months previous to a new election of members to the General Assembly. If, after such publication, the alteration proposed by the preceding General Assembly shall be agreed to in the first session thereafter, by two thirds of the whole representation in each house of the General Assembly, after the same shall have been read three times on three several days, in each house, then the said General Assembly shall prescribe a mode by which the amendment or amendments may be submitted to the qualified voters of the House of Commons throughout the State; and if, upon comparing the votes given in the whole State, it shall appear that a majority of the voters have approved thereof, then, and not otherwise, the same shall become a part of the Constitution.

SEC. II. The thirty-second section of the Constitution shall be amended to read as follows: No person who shall deny the being of God, or the truth of the Christian religion, or the divine authority of the Old or New Testament, or who shall hold religious principles incompatible with the freedom or safety of the State, shall be capable of holding any office or place of trust or profit in the civil department within this State.

SEC. III.—1. Capitation tax shall be equal throughout the State, upon all individuals subject to the same.

2. All free males over the age of twenty-one years, and under the age of forty-five years, and all slaves over the age of twelve years, and under the age of fifty years, shall be subject to capitation tax, and no other person shall be subject to such tax: provided, that nothing herein contained shall prevent exemptions of taxable polls, as heretofore prescribed by law, in cases of bodily infirmity.

SEC. IV. No person who shall hold any office or place of trust or profit under the United States, or any department thereof, or under this State, or any other State or government, shall hold or exercise any other office or place of trust or profit under the authority of this State, or be eligible to a seat in either house of the General Assembly: provided, that nothing herein contained shall extend to officers in the militia or justices of the peace.



*An Amendment adopted at the Session of the General Assembly of 1856-7, having been passed also at the Session of 1854-5, and in the year 1857 submitted to the people of the State, and by their votes ratified.*

An Act to amend the Constitution of the State of North Carolina.

SEC. 1. Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of North Carolina, and it is hereby enacted by the authority of the same, (two-thirds of the whole number of members of each House concurring,) That the *second* clause of the *third* section of the *first* article of the amended Constitution, ratified by the people of North Carolina, on the second Monday of November, in the year of our Lord, eighteen hundred and thirty-five, shall be amended to read as follows:

“Every free white man, of the age of twenty-one years, being a native or naturalized citizen of the United States, and who has been an inhabitant of the State for twelve months immediately preceding the day of any election, and shall have paid public taxes, shall be entitled to vote for a member of the Senate for the district in which he resides.”





## SOUTH CAROLINA



The first settlement in South Carolina was made at Port Royal, in 1670. The following year a settlement was commenced at Old Charleston (above its present state.) In 1680 they abandoned that location, and laid the foundation of the present city of Charleston. In 1690 a colony of French refugees\* settled in this State. In 1703 the Church of England was established by law. But things were in a very unsettled state for some time, and in 1719 the colonists renounced the proprietary government. In 1629 the territory was purchased of the proprietors, as narrated in the account of North Carolina. In 1752 about 1600 foreign Protestants, who had fled from persecution, arrived in Carolina, which added much interest to its settlement. This State suffered much in wars with the Indians. The first Constitution was formed in 1775—the present one in 1790.

The British troops occupied Charleston in 1780. Several hard battles were fought in this State, the most important of which was at Eutaw Springs, in 1781, which in effect terminated the war in this State.

Area 25,000 sq. m. Pop. 1850, 668,507, of which 384,925 are slaves, Free blacks, 8,769.

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\* Huguenots.

## CONSTITUTION.

*We, the Delegates of the People of the State of South Carolina, in general Convention met, do ordain and establish this Constitution for its government.*

## ARTICLE I.

SEC 1. The legislative authority of this State shall be vested in a General Assembly, which shall consist of a Senate and House of Representatives.

2. The House of Representatives shall be composed of members chosen by ballot, every second year, by the citizens of this State, qualified as in this Constitution is provided.

3. The several election districts in this State shall elect the following number of representatives, viz.: Charleston, including St. Philip and St. Michael, fifteen members; Christ Church, three members; St. John, Berkley, three members; St. Andrew, three members; St. George, Dorchester, three members; St. James, Goose Creek, three members; St. Thomas and St. Dennis, three members; St. Paul, three members; St. Bartholomew, three members; St. James, Santee, three members; St. John, Colleton, three members; St. Stephen, three members; St. Helena, three members; St. Luke, three members; Prince William, three members; St. Peter, three members; All Saints, (including its ancient boundaries,) one member; Winyaw, (not including any part of All Saints,) three members; Kingston, (not including any part of All Saints,) two members; Williamsburg, two members; Liberty, two members; Marlborough, two members; Chesterfield, two members; Darlington, two members; York, three members; Chester, two members; Fairfield, two members; Richland, two members; Lancaster, two members; Kershaw, two members; Claremont, two members; Clarendon, two members; Abbeville, three members; Edgefield, three members; Newberry, (including the fork between Broad and Saluda rivers,) three members; Laurens, three members; Union, two members; Spartan, two members; Greenville, two members; Pendleton, three members; St. Matthew, two members; Orange, two members; Winton, (including the district between Savannah river, and the north fork of Edisto,) three members; Saxe Gotha, three members.

4.\* Every free white man, of the age of twenty-one years, being a citizen of this State, and having resided therein two years previous to the day of election, and who hath a freehold of fifty acres of land, or a town lot, of which he hath been legally seized and possessed, at least six months before such election, or, not having such freehold or town lot, hath been a resident in the election district, in which he offers to give his vote, six months before the said election, and hath paid a tax the preceding year of three shillings sterling towards

\* See Amendment.



the support of this government, shall have a right to vote for a member or members, to serve in either branch of the Legislature, for the election district in which he holds such property, or is so resident.

5. The returning officer, or any other person present, entitled to vote, may require any person who shall offer his vote at an election, to produce a certificate of his citizenship, and a receipt from the tax collector of his having paid a tax, entitling him to vote, or to swear, or affirm, that he is duly qualified to vote agreeably to this Constitution.

6. No person shall be eligible to a seat in the House of Representatives, unless he is a free white man, of the age of twenty-one years, and hath been a citizen and resident in this State three years previous to his election. If a resident in the election district, he shall not be eligible to a seat in the House of Representatives, unless he be legally seized and possessed, in his own right, of a settled freehold estate of five hundred acres of land, and ten negroes; or of a real estate, of the value of one hundred and fifty pounds sterling, clear of debt. If a non-resident, he shall be legally seized and possessed of a settled freehold estate therein, of the value of five hundred pounds sterling, clear of debt.

7. The Senate shall be composed of members to be chosen for four years, in the following proportions, by the citizens of this State, qualified to elect members to the House of Representatives, at the same time, in the same manner, and at the same places, where they shall vote for representatives, viz.: Charleston, (including St. Philip and St. Michael,) two members; Christ Church, one member; St. John, Berkeley, one member; St. Andrew, one member; St. George, one member; St. James, Goose Creek, one member; St. Thomas and St. Dennis, one member; St. Paul, one member; St. Bartholomew, one member; St. James, Santee, one member; St. John, Colleton, one member; St. Stephens, one member; St. Helena, one member; St. Luke, one member; Prince William, one member; St. Peter, one member; All Saints, one member; Winyaw and Williamsburgh, one member; Liberty and Kingston, one member; Marlborough, Chesterfield and Darlington, two members; York, one member; Fairfield, Richland and Chester, one member; Lancaster and Kershaw, one member; Claremont and Clarendon, one member; Abbeville, one member; Edgefield, one member; Newbury, (including the fork between Broad and Saluda rivers,) one member; Laurens, one member; Union, one member; Spartan, one member; Greenville, one member; Pendleton, one member; St. Matthew and Orange, one member; Winton, (including the district between Savannah river and the north fork of Edisto,) one member; Saxe Gotha, one member.

8. No person shall be eligible to a seat in the Senate, unless he is a free white man, of the age of thirty years, and hath been a citizen and resident in this State five years previous to his election. If a

resident in the election district, he shall not be eligible unless he be legally seized and possessed, in his own right, of a settled freehold estate of the value of three hundred pounds sterling, clear of debt. If a non-resident in the election district, he shall not be eligible unless he be legally seized and possessed, in his own right, of a settled freehold estate, in the said district, of the value of one thousand pounds sterling, clear of debt.

9. Immediately after the senators shall be assembled, in consequence of the first election, they shall be divided by lot into two classes. The seats of the senators of the first class shall be vacated at the expiration of the second year, and of the second class, at the end of the fourth year; so that one-half thereof, as near as possible, may be chosen, forever thereafter, every second year, for the term of four years.

10. Senators and members of the House of Representatives shall be chosen on the second Monday in October next, and the day following: and on the same days in every second year thereafter, in such manner, and at such times, as are herein directed; and shall meet on the fourth Monday in November annually, at Columbia, (which shall remain the seat of government until otherwise determined, by the concurrence of two-thirds of both branches of the whole representation,) unless the casualties of war, or contagious disorders should render it unsafe to meet there; in either of which cases, the Governor or commander-in-chief for the time being may, by proclamation, appoint a more secure and convenient place of meeting.

11. Each house shall judge of the elections, returns, and qualifications of its own members; and a majority of each house shall constitute a quorum to do business; but a smaller number may adjourn from day to day, and may be authorized to compel the attendance of absent members, in such manner and under such penalties as may be provided by law.

12. Each house shall choose by ballot its own officers, determine its rules of proceeding, punish its members for disorderly behavior, and, with the concurrence of two-thirds, expel a member, but not a second time for the same cause.

13. Each house may punish, by imprisonment, during sitting, any person, not a member, who shall be guilty of disrespect to the house, by any disorderly or contemptuous behavior in its presence—or who, during the time of its sitting, shall threaten harm to body or estate of any member, for anything said or done in either house; or who shall assault any of them therefor; or who shall assault or arrest any witness or other person ordered to attend the house, in his going to or returning therefrom; or who shall rescue any person arrested by order of the house.

14. The members of both houses shall be protected in their persons and estates, during their attendance on, going to, and returning from the Legislature, and ten days previous to their sitting, and ten



days after the adjournment of the Legislature. But these privileges shall not be extended so as to protect any member who shall be charged with treason, felony, or breach of the peace.

15. Bills for raising a revenue shall originate in the House of Representatives, but may be altered, amended, or rejected by the Senate. All other bills may originate in either house, and may be amended, altered, or rejected by the other.

16. No bill or ordinance shall have the force of law, until it shall have been read three times, and on three several days, in each house, has had the Great Seal affixed to it, and has been signed, in the Senate-House, by the President of the Senate and Speaker of the House of Representatives.

17. No money shall be drawn out of the public treasury, but by the legislative authority of the State.

18. The members of the Legislature, who shall assemble under this Constitution, shall be entitled to receive out of the public treasury, as a compensation for their expenses, a sum not exceeding seven shillings sterling a day, during their attendance on, going to, and returning from the Legislature: but the same may be increased or diminished by law, if circumstances shall require; but no alterations shall be made by any Legislature, to take effect during the existence of the Legislature which shall make such alteration.

19. Neither house shall, during their session, without the consent of the other, adjourn for more than three days, nor to any other place than that in which the two houses shall be sitting.

20. No bill or ordinance, which shall have been rejected by either house, shall be brought in again during the sitting, without leave of the house, and notice of six days being previously given.

21. No person shall be eligible to a seat in the Legislature whilst he holds any office of profit or trust under this State, the United States, or either of them, or under any other power—except officers in the militia, army, or navy of this State, justices of the peace, or justices of the county courts, while they receive no salaries; nor shall any contractor of the army or navy of this State, the United States, or either of them, or the agents of such contractor, be eligible to a seat in either house. And if any member shall accept or exercise any of the said disqualifying offices, he shall vacate his seat.

22. If any election district shall neglect to choose a member or members, on the days of election, or if any person chosen a member of either house shall refuse to qualify and take his seat, or should die, depart the State, or accept any disqualifying office, a writ of election shall be issued by the President of the Senate, or Speaker of the House of Representatives, as the case may be, for the purpose of filling up the vacancy thereby occasioned, for the remainder of the term for which the person so refusing to qualify, dying, departing the State, or accepting a disqualifying office, was elected to serve.

23. And whereas the ministers of the Gospel are, by their profession, dedicated to the service of God, and the care of souls, and ought not to be diverted from the great duty of their functions: therefore, no minister of the Gospel, or public preacher, of any religious persuasion, whilst he continues in the exercise of his pastoral functions, shall be eligible to the office of Governor, Lieutenant-Governor, or a seat in the Senate or House of Representatives.

## ARTICLE II.

SEC. 1. The executive authority of this State shall be invested in a Governor, to be chosen in manner following: as soon as may be, after the first meeting of the Senate and House of Representatives, and at every first meeting of the House of Representatives thereafter, when a majority of both houses shall be present, the Senate and House of Representatives shall, jointly, in the House of Representatives, choose, by ballot, a Governor, to continue for two years, and until a new election shall be made.

2. No person shall be eligible to the office of Governor, unless he hath attained the age of thirty years, and hath resided within this State, and been a citizen thereof, ten years, and unless he be seized and possessed of a settled estate within the same, in his own right, of the value of fifteen hundred pounds sterling, clear of debt.

No person, having served two years as Governor, shall be re-eligible to that office, till after the expiration of four years.

No person shall hold the office of Governor, or any other office or commission, civil or military, except in the militia, either in this State or under any State, or the United States, or in any other power, at one and the same time.

3. A Lieutenant-Governor shall be chosen at the same time, in the same manner, continue in office for the same period, and be possessed of the same qualifications, as the Governor.

4. A member of the Senate or House of Representatives, being chosen, and acting as Governor or Lieutenant-Governor, shall vacate his seat, and another person shall be elected in his stead.

5. In case of the impeachment of the Governor, or his removal from office, death, resignation, or absence from the State, the Lieutenant-Governor shall succeed to his office. And in case of the impeachment of the Lieutenant-Governor, or his removal from office, death, resignation, or absence from the State, the President of the Senate shall succeed to his office, till a nomination to those offices respectively shall be made by the Senate and House of Representatives, for the remainder of the time for which the officer so impeached, removed from office, dying, resigning, or being absent, was elected.

6. The Governor shall be commander-in-chief of the army and navy of this State, and of the militia, except when they shall be called into the actual service of the United States.



7. He shall have power to grant reprieves and pardons, after conviction, except in cases of impeachment, in such manner, on such terms, and under restrictions, as he shall think proper, and he shall have power to remit fines and forfeitures, unless otherwise directed by law.

8. He shall take care that the laws be faithfully executed in mercy.

9. He shall have power to prohibit the exportation of provision, for any time not exceeding thirty days.

10. He shall, at stated times, receive for his services a compensation, which shall neither be increased or diminished during the period for which he shall have been elected.

11. All officers in the executive department, when required by the Governor, shall give him information, in writing, upon any subject relating to the duties of their respective offices.

12. The Governor shall, from time to time, give to the General Assembly information of the condition of the State, and recommend to their consideration such measures as he shall judge necessary or expedient.

13. He may, on extraordinary occasions, convene the General Assembly, and, in case of disagreement between the two houses with respect to the time of adjournment, adjourn them to such time as he shall think proper, not beyond the fourth Monday in the month of November then ensuing.

### ARTICLE III.

SEC. 1. The judicial power shall be vested in such superior and inferior courts of law and equity, as the Legislature shall, from time to time, direct and establish.

The judges of each shall hold their commissions during good behavior; and judges of the superior courts shall, at stated times, receive a compensation for their services, which shall neither be increased or diminished during their continuance in office: but they shall receive no fees or perquisites of office, nor hold any other office of profit or trust, under this State, the United States, or any other power.

2. The style of all processes shall be, "*the State of South Carolina.*" All prosecutions shall be carried on in the name and by the authority of the State of South Carolina, and conclude—"against the peace and dignity of the same."

### ARTICLE IV.

All persons who shall be chosen or appointed to any office of profit or trust, before entering on the execution thereof, shall take the following oath: "I do swear (or affirm) that I am duly qualified, according to the Constitution of this State, to exercise the office to which I have been appointed, and will to the best of my abilities,

discharge the duties thereof, and preserve, protect, and defend the Constitution of this State, and of the United States."

#### ARTICLE V.

SEC. 1. That the House of Representatives shall have the sole power of impeaching; but no impeachment shall be made, unless with the concurrence of two-thirds of the House of Representatives.

2. All impeachments shall be tried by the Senate. When sitting for that purpose, the Senators shall be on oath or affirmation: and no person shall be convicted without the concurrence of two-thirds of the members present.

3. The Governor, Lieutenant-Governor, and all the civil officers, shall be liable to impeachment for any misdemeanor in office; but judgment in such cases shall not extend further than to a removal from office, and disqualification to hold any office of honor, trust, or profit, under this State. The party convicted shall, nevertheless, be liable to indictment, trial, judgment, and punishment, according to law.

#### ARTICLE VI.

SEC. 1. The judges of the superior courts, the commissioners of the treasury, Secretary of the State, and Surveyor-General, shall be elected by the joint ballot of both houses, in the House of Representatives. The commissioners of the treasury, Secretary of this State, and Surveyor-General, shall hold their offices for four years: but shall not be eligible again for four years after the expiration of the time for which they shall have been elected.

2. All other officers shall be appointed as they hitherto have been, until otherwise directed by law; but sheriffs shall hold their offices for four years, and not be again eligible for four years after the term for which they shall have been elected.

3. All commissions shall be in the name and by the authority of the State of South Carolina, and be sealed with the seal of the State, and be signed by the Governor.

#### ARTICLE VII.

All laws in force in this State at the passing of this Constitution, shall so continue until altered or repealed by the Legislature; except where they are temporary, in which case they shall expire at the times respectively limited for their duration, if not continued by act of the Legislature.

#### ARTICLE VIII.

SEC. 1. The free exercise and enjoyment of religious profession and worship, without discrimination or preference, shall, forever hereafter, be allowed within this State to all mankind: Provided, that the liberty of conscience thereby declared, shall not be so construed as to excuse acts of licentiousness, or justify practices inconsistent with the peace or safety of this State.



2. The rights, privileges, immunities, and estates of both civil and religious societies and of corporated bodies, shall remain as if the Constitution of this State had not been altered or amended.

### ARTICLE IX.

SEC. 1. All power is originally vested in the people; and all free governments are founded on their authority, and are instituted for their peace, safety, and happiness.

2. No freeman of this State shall be taken, or imprisoned, or disseized of his freehold, liberties, or privileges, or outlawed, or exiled, or in any manner destroyed, or deprived of his life, liberty, or property, but by the judgment of his peers, or by the law of the land: nor shall any bill of attainder, *ex post facto* law, or law impairing the obligation of contracts, ever be passed by the Legislature of this State.

3. The military shall be subordinate to the civil power.

4. Excessive bail shall not be required, nor excessive fines imposed, nor cruel punishments inflicted.

5. The Legislature shall not grant any title of nobility or hereditary distinction, nor create any office, the appointment to which shall be for any longer time than during good behavior.

6. The trial by jury, as heretofore used in this State, and the liberty of the press, shall be forever inviolably preserved.

### ARTICLE X.

SEC. 1. The business of the treasury shall be in future conducted by two treasurers, one of whom shall hold his office and reside in Columbia; and the other shall hold his office and reside in Charleston.

2. The Secretary of State and Surveyor-General shall hold their offices both in Columbia and in Charleston. They shall reside at one place, and their deputies at the other.

3. At the conclusion of the circuits, the judges shall meet and sit at Columbia, for the purpose of hearing and determining all motions which may be made for new trials, and in arrest of judgments, and such points of law as may be submitted to them. From Columbia they shall proceed to Charleston, and there hear and determine all such motions for new trials, and in arrest of judgment, and such points of law as may be submitted to them.

4. The Governor shall always preside, during the sitting of the Legislature, at the place where their sessions may be held, and at all other times, wherever, in his opinion, the public good may require.

5. The Legislature shall, as soon as may be convenient, pass laws for the abolition of the rights of primogenitures, and for giving an equitable distribution of the real estate of intestates.

## ARTICLE XI.

No convention of the people shall be called, unless by the concurrence of two-thirds of both branches of the whole representation.

No part of this Constitution shall be altered, unless a bill to alter the same shall have been read three times in the House of Representatives, and three times in the Senate, and agreed to by two-thirds of both branches of the whole representation; neither shall any alteration take place until the bill so agreed to be published three months previous to a new election for members to the House of Representatives; and if the alteration proposed by the Legislature shall be agreed to in their first session by two-thirds of the whole representation in both branches of the Legislature, after the same shall have been read three times, on three several days in each house, then and not otherwise, the same shall become a part of the Constitution.

## AMENDMENTS TO THE CONSTITUTION.

*Amendments ratified December 17, 1808.*

The following sections, in amendment of the third, seventh, and ninth sections of the first article of the Constitution of this State, shall be, and they are hereby declared to be, valid parts of the said Constitution; and the said third, seventh, and ninth sections, or such parts thereof as are repugnant to such amendments, are hereby repealed and made void.

SEC. 1. The House of Representatives shall consist of one hundred and twenty four members, to be apportioned among the several election districts of the State, according to the number of white inhabitants contained, and the amount of all taxes raised by the Legislature, whether direct or indirect, or of whatever species, paid in each, deducting therefrom all taxes paid on account of property held in any other district, and adding thereto all taxes elsewhere paid on account of property held in such district. An enumeration of the white inhabitants, for this purpose, shall be made in the year one thousand eight hundred and nine, and in the course of every tenth year thereafter, in such manner as shall be by law directed: and representatives shall be assigned to the different districts in the above mentioned proportion, by act of the Legislature, at the session immediately succeeding the above numeration.

2. If the enumeration herein directed should not be made in the course of the year appointed for the purpose by these amendments, it shall be the duty of the Governor to have it effected as soon thereafter as shall be practicable.

3. In assigning representatives to the several districts of the



State, the Legislature shall allow one representative for every sixty-second part of the whole number of white inhabitants in the State; and one representative also for every sixty-second part of the whole taxes raised by the Legislature of the State. The Legislature shall further allow one representative for such fractions of the sixty-second part of the white inhabitants of the State, and of the sixty-second part of the taxes raised by the Legislature of the State, as, when added together, form a unit.

4. In every apportionment of representation under these amendments, which shall take place after the first apportionment, the amount of taxes shall be estimated from the average of the ten preceding years; but the first apportionment shall be founded upon the tax of the preceding year, excluding from the amount thereof the whole produce of the tax on sales at public auction.

5. If, in the apportionment of representatives under these amendments, any election district shall appear not to be entitled, from its population and its taxes, to a representative, such election district shall, nevertheless, send one representative; and, if there should be still a deficiency of the number of representatives required by these amendments, such deficiency shall be supplied by assigning representatives to those election districts having the largest surplus fractions; whether those fractions consist of a combination of population and of taxes, or of population or of taxes separately, until the number of one hundred and twenty-four members be provided.

6. No apportionment, under these amendments shall be construed to take effect, in any manner, until the general election which shall succeed such apportionment.

7. The election districts, for members of the House of Representatives, shall be and remain as heretofore established, except Saxe Gotha and Newberry; in which the boundaries shall be altered, as follows, viz: That part of Lexington in the fork of Broad and Saluda rivers, shall no longer compose a part of the election district of Newberry, but shall be henceforth attached to, and form a part of Saxe Gotha. And, also, except Orange and Barnwell, or Winton, in which the boundaries shall be altered as follows, viz.: That part of Orange in the fork of Edisto shall no longer compose a part of the election district of Barnwell, or Winton, but shall be henceforth attached to, and form a part of, Orange election district.

8. The Senate shall be composed of one member from each election district, as now established for the election of members of the House of Representatives, except the district formed by the parishes of St. Philip and St. Michael, to which shall be allowed two senators, as heretofore.

9. The seats of those senators who under the Constitution shall represent two or more election districts, on the day preceding the second Monday of October, which will be in the year one thousand eight hundred and ten, shall be vacated on that day, and the new senators who shall represent such districts under these amend

ments, shall, immediately after they shall have been assembled under the first election, be divided by lots into two classes; the seats of the senators of the first class shall be vacated at the expiration of the second year, and of the second class, at the expiration of the fourth year; and the number in these classes shall be so proportioned, that one-half of the whole number of senators may, as nearly as possible, continue to be chosen thereafter every second year.

10. None of these amendments becoming parts of the Constitution of this State shall be altered, unless a bill to alter the same shall have been read on three several days in the House of Representatives, and on three several days in the Senate, and agreed to at the second and third reading by two-thirds of the whole representation in each branch of the Legislature; neither shall any alteration take place, until the bill so agreed to be published three months previous to a new election for members to the House of Representatives; and if the alteration proposed by the Legislature shall be agreed to in their first session, by two-thirds of the whole representation, in each branch of the Legislature, after the same shall have been read on three several days in each house, then, and not otherwise, the same shall become a part of the Constitution.

*Amendment ratified December 19, 1816.*

That the third section of the tenth article of the Constitution of this State be altered and amended to read as follows: The judges shall, at such times and places as shall be prescribed by act of the Legislature of this State, meet and sit for the purpose of hearing and determining all motions which may be made for new trials, and in arrest of judgment, and such points of law as may be submitted to them.

*Amendment of 1854.*

*An Act to alter the Constitution of this State so as to divide Pendleton into two election districts.*

SEC. 1. Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives now met and sitting in General Assembly, and by the authority of the same, That the Constitution of this State be altered and amended as follows: The district of Pendleton shall constitute two election districts, to be called Anderson district, and Pickens district; Anderson district shall include all the territory now constituting Anderson judicial district, and Pickens district shall include all the territory now constituting Pickens judicial district.

2. Each of the said districts shall be entitled to elect one senator, and such a number of representatives as they may respectively be entitled to from time to time, according to the provisions of the Constitution now of force.

3. That until the next apportionment of representation, Anderson



district shall be entitled to four members in the House of Representatives, and Pickens district to three members.

*Amendments ratified December, 1856.*

An Act to amend the fourth section of the first article of the Constitution of this State.

SEC. 1. Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives, now met and sitting in General Assembly, and by the authority of the same, That the amendment of the fourth section of the first article of the Constitution of this State, ratified on the nineteenth day of December, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and ten, be altered and amended to read as follows :

“Every free white man of the age of twenty-one years, (paupers and non-commissioned officers and private soldiers of the army of the United States, excepted,) who hath been a citizen and resident in this State two years previous to the day of election, and who hath a freehold of fifty acres of land or a town lot, of which he hath been legally seized and possessed at least six months before such election, or, not having such a freehold or town lot, hath been a resident in the election district in which he offers to give his vote six months before the said election, shall have a right to vote for a member or members, to serve in either branch of the Legislature for the election district in which he holds such property, or is so resident.





## GEORGIA.



GEORGIA was the latest settled of the original thirteen States. In 1732, George II. (for whom the State was named), granted this territory to a company of benevolent individuals, for the purpose of providing an asylum for the poor of England, and for the persecuted Protestants of all nations. The affairs of the colony were committed to a board of 20 trustees. In 1733 James Oglethorpe, with 130 emigrants, commenced a settlement at Savannah. The next year a large number of poor persons arrived. But many of these emigrants were found to be idle and inefficient. This led the trustees to make liberal offers to any who would settle in this colony. By this hundreds were induced to come over from Scotland, Germany, and Switzerland. In 1740 as many as 2500 emigrants had settled in this colony, of whom more than 1500 were the poor of Europe, and for whose support the trustees had expended \$500,000. But the trustees, being disappointed in their expectations, gave up their charter in 1752, and Georgia was brought under regulations similar to the other colonies. The first Constitution was formed in 1777, the second in 1785, and the present one in 1798—and was amended in 1839.

Area 58,000 sq. m. Pop. 1850, 905,999, of which 362,966 were slaves, and 2,586, Free blacks. Pop. 1855, 935,090.

## CONSTITUTION.

### ARTICLE I.

SEC. 1. The legislative, executive, and judiciary departments of government shall be distinct, and each department shall be confided to a separate body of magistracy; and no person or collection of persons, being of one of those departments, shall exercise any power properly attached to either of the others, except in the instances herein expressly permitted.

2. The legislative power shall be vested in two separate and distinct branches, to wit: a Senate and House of Representatives, to be styled "*the General Assembly*."

3. The Senate shall be elected annually, on the first Monday in November, until such day of election be altered by law; and shall be composed of one member from each county, to be chosen by the electors thereof.

4. No person shall be a senator who shall not have attained to the age of twenty-five years; and have been nine years a citizen of the United States, and three years an inhabitant of this State, and shall have usually resided within the county for which he shall be returned, at least one year immediately preceding his election, except persons who may have been absent on public business of this State or of the United States,) and is, and shall have been possessed, in his own right, of a settled freehold estate of the value of five hundred dollars, or of taxable property to the amount of one thousand dollars, within the county, or for one year preceding his election: and whose estate shall, on a reasonable estimation, be fully competent to the discharge of his just debts, over and above that sum.

5. The Senate shall elect, by ballot, a president out of their own body.

6. The Senate shall have the sole power to try all impeachments. When sitting for that purpose, they shall be on oath or affirmation: and no person shall be convicted without the concurrence of two-thirds of the members present. Judgment in cases of impeachment shall not extend further than removal from office and disqualification to hold and enjoy any office of honor, trust, or profit, within this State: but the party convicted shall, nevertheless, be subject to indictment, trial, judgment, and punishment, according to law.

7. The House of Representatives shall be composed of members from all the counties which now are, or hereafter may be, included within this State, according to their respective numbers of free white persons, and including three-fifths of all the people of color. The actual enumeration shall be made within two years, and within every subsequent term of seven years thereafter, at such time and in such manner as this Convention may direct. Each county containing three thousand persons, agreeably to the foregoing plan of enumeration, shall be entitled to two members: seven thousand to three members; and twelve thousand to four members; but each county shall have at least one, and not more than four members; the representatives shall be chosen annually, on the first Monday in November, until such day of election be altered by law. Until the aforesaid enumeration shall be made, the several counties shall be entitled to the following number of representatives, respectively: Camden two; Glynn two; Liberty three; McIntosh two; Bryan one; Chatham four; Effingham two; Scriven two; Montgomery two; Burke three; Bullock one; Jefferson three; Lincoln two; Elbert three; Jackson two; Richmond three; Wilkes four; Colum-



bia three; Warren three; Washington three; Hancock four; Greene three; Oglethorpe three; and Franklin two.

8. No person shall be a representative who shall not have attained to the age of twenty-one years, and have been seven years a citizen of the United States, three years an inhabitant of this State, and have usually resided in the county in which he shall be chosen, one year immediately preceding his election, (unless he shall have been absent on public business of this State or of the United States,) and shall be possessed in his own right of a settled freehold estate of the value of two hundred and fifty dollars, or of taxable property to the amount of five hundred dollars within the county, for one year preceding his election; and whose estate shall, on a reasonable estimation, be competent to the discharge of his just debts, over and above that sum.

9. The House of Representatives shall choose their speaker and other officers.

10. They shall have solely the power to impeach all persons who have been or may be in office.

11. No person holding any military commission or other appointment, having any emolument or compensation annexed thereto, under this State or the United States, or either of them, except justices of the inferior court, justices of the peace, and officers of the militia, nor any person who has had charge of public moneys belonging to the State, unaccounted for and unpaid, or who has not paid all legal taxes or contributions to the government required of him, shall have a seat in either branch of the General Assembly; nor shall any senator or representative be elected to any office or appointment by the Legislature, having any emoluments or compensation annexed thereto, during the time for which he shall have been elected, with the above exception, unless he shall decline accepting his seat, by notice to the executive within twenty days after he shall have been elected; nor shall any member, after having taken his seat, be eligible to any of the aforesaid offices or appointments during the time for which he shall have been elected.

12. The meeting of the General Assembly shall be annually, on the second Tuesday in January, until such day of meeting be altered by law: a majority of each branch shall be authorized to proceed to business; but a smaller number may adjourn from day to day, and compel the attendance of their members in such manner as each house may prescribe.

13. Each house shall be the judges of the elections, returns, and qualifications of its own members; with powers to expel or punish, by censuring, fining, and imprisoning, or either, for disorderly behavior; and may expel any person convicted of any felonious or infamous offence; each house may punish by imprisonment, during session, any person not a member, who shall be guilty of disrespect by any disorderly or contemptuous behavior in its presence, or who, during session, shall threaten harm to the body or estate of any

member, for anything said or done in either house, or who shall assault any of them therefor; or who shall assault or arrest any witness in going to or returning from, or who shall rescue any person arrested by order of either house.

14. No senator or representative shall be liable to be arrested during his attendance on the General Assembly, or for ten days previous to its sitting, or for ten days after the rising thereof, except for treason, felony, or breach of the peace; nor shall any member be liable to answer for any thing spoken in debate in either house, in any court or place elsewhere; but shall nevertheless be bound to answer for perjury, bribery, or corruption.

15. Each house shall keep a journal of its proceedings, and publish them immediately after their adjournment; and the yeas and nays of the members on any question shall, at the desire of any two members, be entered on the journals.

16. All bills for raising revenue or appropriating moneys, shall originate in the House of Representatives; but the Senate shall propose or concur with amendments, as in other bills.

17. Every bill shall be read three times and on three separate days, in each branch of the General Assembly, before it shall pass, unless in cases of actual invasion or insurrection; nor shall any law or ordinance pass, containing any matter different from what is expressed in the title thereof; and all acts shall be signed by the President in the Senate, and Speaker in the House of Representatives: No bill or ordinance which shall have been rejected by either house, shall be brought in again during the session, under the same or any other title, without the consent of two-thirds of each branch.

18. Each senator and representative before he be permitted to take his seat, shall take an oath, or make affirmation, that he hath not practised any unlawful means, either directly or indirectly, to procure his election; and every person shall be disqualified from serving as a Senator or Representative, for the term for which he shall have been elected, who shall be convicted of having given or offered any bribe, or treat, or canvassed for such election; and every candidate employing like means, and not elected, shall, on conviction, be ineligible to hold a seat in either house, or to hold any office of honor or profit for the term of one year, and to such other disabilities or penalties as may be prescribed by law.

19. Every member of the Senate and House of Representatives shall, before he takes his seat, take the following oath or affirmation, to wit: "I, A. B., do solemnly swear (or affirm, as the case may be) that I have not obtained my election by bribery, treats, canvassing, or other undue or unlawful means, used by myself, or others by my desire or approbation, for that purpose; that I consider myself constitutionally qualified as a Senator or Representative; and that, on all questions and measures which may come before me, I will give my vote, and so conduct myself, as may, in my judgment, appear most conducive to the interest and prosperity of this State; and



that I will bear true faith and allegiance to the same; and to the utmost of my power and ability observe, conform to, support, and defend the Constitution thereof."

20. No person who hath been or may be convicted of felony before any court of this State, or any of the United States, shall be eligible to any office or appointment of honor, profit, or trust, within this State.

21. Neither house, during the session of the General Assembly, shall, without the consent of the other, adjourn for more than three days, nor to any other place than that at which the two branches shall be sitting; and in case of disagreement between the Senate and House of Representatives, with respect to their adjournment, the Governor may adjourn them.

22. The General Assembly shall have power to make all laws and ordinances which they shall deem necessary and proper for the good of the State, which shall not be repugnant to this Constitution.

23. They shall have power to alter the boundaries of the present counties, and lay off new ones, as well out of the counties already laid off, as out of the other territory belonging to the State; but the property of the soil, in a free government, being one of the essential rights of a free people, it is necessary, in order to avoid disputes, that the limits of this State should be ascertained with precision and exactness; and this Convention, composed of the immediate representatives of the people, chosen by them to assert their rights, to revise the powers given by them to the government, and from whose will all ruling authority of right flows, doth assert and declare, the boundaries of this State shall be as follows, that is to say: the limits, boundaries, jurisdictions, and authority of the State of Georgia, do, and did, and of right ought to, extend from the sea or mouth of the river Savannah, along the northern branch or stream thereof, to the fork or confluence of the rivers now called Tugalo and Keowee, and from thence along the most northern branch or stream of the said river Tugalo, till it intersect the northern boundary line of South Carolina, if the said branch or stream of Tugalo extends so far north, reserving all the islands in the said river Savannah and Tugalo to Georgia; but, if the head spring or source of any branch or stream of the said river Tugalo does not extend to the north boundary line of South Carolina, then a west line to the Mississippi, to be drawn from the head spring or source of the said branch or stream of Tugalo river, which extends to the highest northern latitude; thence, down the middle of the said river Mississippi, until it shall intersect the northernmost part of the thirty-first degree of north latitude; south, by a line drawn due east, from the termination of the line last mentioned, in the latitude of thirty-one degrees north of the equator, to the middle of the river Apalachicola, or Chatahoochee; thence, along the middle thereof, to its junction with Flint river; thence, straight to the head of St

Mary's river; and thence, along the middle of St. Mary's river, to the Atlantic ocean, and from thence to the mouth or inlet of Savannah river, the place of beginning: including and comprehending all the lands and waters within the said limits, boundaries, and jurisdictional rights; and also all the islands within twenty leagues of the sea coast. And this Convention doth further declare and assert, that all the territory without the present temporary line, and within the limits aforesaid, is now, of right, the property of the free citizens of this State, and held by them in sovereignty, inalienable but by their consent. Provided, nevertheless, That nothing herein contained shall be construed so as to prevent a sale to, or contract with the United States, by the Legislature of this State, of and for all or any part of the western territory of this State, lying westward of the river Chatahoochee, on such terms as may be beneficial to both parties; and may procure an extension of settlement, and extinguishment of Indian claims, in and to the vacant territory of this State to the east and north of the said river Chatahoochee, to which territory, such power of contract or sale, by the Legislature, shall not extend: And provided also, The Legislature may give its consent to the establishment of one or more governments westward thereof; but monopolies of land by individuals being contrary to the spirit of our free government, no sale of territory of this State, or any part thereof, shall take place to individuals or private companies, unless a county or counties shall have been first laid off, including such territory, and the Indian rights shall have been extinguished thereto.

24. The foregoing section of this article having declared the common rights of the free citizens of this State, in and to all the territory without the present temporary boundary line, and within the limits of this State thereby defined, by which the contemplated purchases of certain companies of a considerable portion thereof are become constitutionally void; and justice and good faith require, that the State should not detain a consideration for a contract which has failed; the Legislature, at their next session, shall make provision by law for returning to any person or persons who has or have *bona fide* deposited moneys for such purchases in the treasury of this State: Provided, that the same shall not have been drawn therefrom in terms of the act passed the thirteenth day of February, one thousand seven hundred and ninety-six, commonly called the rescinding act, or the appropriation laws of the years one thousand seven hundred and ninety-six and one thousand seven hundred and ninety-seven; nor shall the moneys paid for such purchases ever be deemed a part of the funds of this State, or be liable to appropriation as such; but until such moneys be drawn from the treasury, they shall be considered altogether at the risk of the persons who have deposited the same. No money shall be drawn out of the treasury or from the public funds of this State, except by appropriation made by law; and a regular statement and account of the



receipts and expenditures of all public moneys shall be published from time to time. No vote, resolution, law, or order, shall pass the General Assembly, granting a donation or gratuity in favor of any person whatever, but by the concurrence of two-thirds of the General Assembly.

25. It shall be the duty of the justices of the inferior court, or any three of them, in each county respectively, within sixty days after the adjournment of this Convention, to appoint one or more fit persons in each county, not exceeding one for each battalion district, whose duty it shall be to take a full and accurate census or enumeration of all free white persons and people of color residing therein, distinguishing, in separate columns, the free white persons from persons of color, and return the same to the clerks of the superior courts of the several counties, certified under their hands, on or before the first day of December next; the persons so appointed, being first severally sworn before the said justices, or either of them, duly and faithfully to perform the trust reposed in them; and it shall be the duty of the said clerks to transmit all such returns, under seal, directed to the Speaker of the House of Representatives, at the first session of the Legislature thereafter. And it shall be the duty of the General Assembly, at their said first session, to apportion the members of the House of Representatives among the several counties, agreeably to the plans prescribed by this Constitution, and to provide an adequate compensation for the taking of the said census. Every person whose usual place of abode shall be in any family on the first Monday in July next, shall be returned as of such family; and of every person occasionally absent at the time of taking the enumeration, as belonging to that place in which he usually resides. The General Assembly shall, by law, direct the manner of taking such census or enumeration, within every subsequent term of seven years, in conformity to this Constitution. And it is declared to be the duty of all officers, civil and military, throughout the State, to be aiding and assisting in the true and faithful execution thereof. In case the justices of the inferior courts should fail to make such appointments, or if there should not be a sufficient number of such justices in any county, then the justices of the peace, or any three of them, shall have and exercise like powers and authority respecting the said census; and if the census or enumeration of any county shall not be so taken and returned, then, and in that case, the General Assembly shall apportion the representation of such county according to the best evidence in their power, relative to its population.\*

## ARTICLE II.

SEC. 1. The executive power shall be vested in a Governor, who shall hold his office during the term of two years, and until such time as a successor shall be chosen and qualified. He shall have a competent salary, established by law, which shall not be increased or

\* An additional Sec. See Appendix.

diminished during the period for which he shall have been elected ; neither shall he receive, within that period, any other emolument from the United States, or either of them, or from any foreign power.

2. The Governor shall be elected by the General Assembly, at their second annual session after the rising of this Convention, and at every second annual session thereafter, on the second day after the two houses shall be organized and competent to proceed to business.

3. No person shall be eligible to the office of Governor who shall not have been a citizen of the United States twelve years, and an inhabitant of this State six years, and who hath not attained to the age of thirty years, and who does not possess five hundred acres of land, in his own right, within this State, and other property to the amount of four thousand dollars, and whose estate shall not, on a reasonable estimation, be competent to the discharge of his debts, over and above that sum.

4. In case of the death, resignation, or disability of the Governor, the President of the Senate shall exercise the executive powers of government until such disability be removed, or until the next meeting of the General Assembly.

5. The Governor shall, before he enters on the duties of his office, take the following oath or affirmation : " I do solemnly swear (or affirm, as the case may be) that I will faithfully execute the office of Governor to the State of Georgia ; and will, to the best of my abilities, preserve, protect, and defend the said State, and cause justice to be executed in mercy therein, according to the Constitution and laws thereof."

6. He shall be commander-in-chief of the army and navy of this State, and of the militia thereof.

7. He shall have power to grant reprieves for offences against the State, except in cases of impeachment, and to grant pardons or to remit any part of a sentence, in all cases after conviction, except for treason or murder, in which cases he may respite the execution, and make report thereof to the next General Assembly, by whom a pardon may be granted.

8. He shall issue writs of election to fill up all vacancies that happen in the Senate or House of Representatives ; and shall have power to convene the General Assembly on extraordinary occasions ; and shall give them, from time to time, information of the state of the republic, and recommend to their consideration such measures as he may deem necessary and expedient.

9. When any office shall become vacant by death, resignation, or otherwise, the Governor shall have the power to fill such vacancy ; and persons so appointed shall continue in office until a successor is appointed, agreeably to the mode pointed out by this Constitution or by the Legislature.

10. He shall have the revision of all bills passed by both houses,



before the same shall become laws; but two-thirds of both houses may pass a law notwithstanding his dissent; and if any bill should not be returned by the Governor within five days after it hath been presented to him, the same shall be a law unless the General Assembly, by their adjournment, shall prevent its return.

11. Every vote, resolution, or order, to which the concurrence of both houses may be necessary, except on a question of adjournment, shall be presented to the Governor; and, before it shall take effect, be approved by him; or, being disapproved, may be repassed by two-thirds of both houses, according to the rules and limitations prescribed in case of a bill.

12. There shall be a Secretary of the State, a Treasurer, and a Surveyor-General, appointed in the same manner and at the same session of the Legislature, and they shall hold their offices for the like period as the Governor, and shall have a competent salary, including such emoluments as may be established by law, which shall not be increased or diminished during the period for which they shall have been elected.

13. The great seal of the State shall be deposited in the office of the Secretary of State, and shall not be affixed to any instrument of writing, but by order of the Governor or General Assembly; and the General Assembly shall, at their first session after the rising of this Convention, cause the great seal to be altered by law.

14. The Governor shall have power to appoint his own secretaries.

### ARTICLE III.

SEC. 1. The judicial powers of this State shall be vested in a Superior Court, and in such inferior jurisdictions as the Legislature shall, from time to time, ordain and establish. The judges of the Superior Court shall be elected for the term of three years, removable by the Governor, on the address of two-thirds of both houses for that purpose, or by impeachment and conviction thereon. The Superior Court shall have exclusive and final jurisdiction in all criminal cases which shall be tried in the county wherein the crime was committed, and in all cases respecting titles to land, which shall be tried in the county where the land lies; and shall have power to correct errors in inferior judicatories by writs of *certiorari*, as well as errors in the superior courts, and to order new trials on proper and legal grounds; Provided, that such new trials shall be determined, and such errors corrected, in the Superior Court of the county in which such action originated. And the said Court shall also have appellate jurisdiction in such other cases as the Legislature may by law direct, which shall in no case tend to remove the cause from the county in which the action originated; and the judges thereof, in all cases of application for new trials, or correction of error, shall enter their opinions on the minutes of the Court. The inferior courts shall have cognizance of all other civil cases, which

shall be tried in the county wherein the defendant resides, except in cases of joint obligors, residing in different counties, which may be commenced in either county: and a copy of the petition and process, served on the party or parties residing out of the county in which the suit may be commenced, shall be deemed sufficient service, under such rules and regulations as the Legislature may direct; but the Legislature may, by law, to which two-thirds of each branch shall concur, give concurrent jurisdiction to the superior courts. The superior and inferior courts shall sit in each county twice in every year, at such stated times as the Legislature shall appoint.

2. The judges shall have salaries adequate to their services, established by law, which shall not be increased or diminished during their continuance in office; but shall not receive any other perquisites or emoluments whatever, from parties or others, on account of any duty required of them.

3. There shall be a State's attorney and solicitors appointed by the Legislature, and commissioned by the Governor, who shall hold their offices for the term of three years, unless removed by sentence on impeachment, or by the Governor, on the address of two-thirds of each branch of the General Assembly. They shall have salaries adequate to their services, established by law, which shall not be increased or diminished during their continuance in office.\*

4. Justices of the inferior courts shall be appointed by the General Assembly, and be commissioned by the Governor, and shall hold their commissions during good behavior, or as long as they respectively reside in the county for which they shall be appointed, unless removed by sentence on impeachment, or by the Governor, on the address of two-thirds of each branch of the General Assembly. They may be compensated for their services in such manner as the Legislature may by law direct.

5. The justices of the peace shall be nominated by the inferior courts of the several counties, and commissioned by the Governor; and there shall be two justices of the peace in each captain's district, either or both of whom shall have power to try all cases of a civil nature within their district, where the debt or litigated demand does not exceed thirty dollars, in such manner as the Legislature may by law direct. They shall hold their appointments during good behavior, or until they shall be removed by conviction, on indictment in the Superior Court, for malpractice in office, or for any felonious or infamous crime, or by the Governor, on the address of two-thirds of each branch of the Legislature.

6. The powers of a court of ordinary, or register of probates, shall be invested in the inferior courts of each county, from whose decision there may be an appeal to the Superior Court, under such restrictions and regulations as the General Assembly may by law direct; but the inferior court shall have power to vest the care of the records, and other proceedings therein, in the clerk, or such

\* See Amendments.



other person as they may appoint, and any one or more justices of the said court, with such clerk or other person, may issue citations and grant temporary letters, in time of vacation, to hold until the next meeting of the said court; and such clerk or other person may grant marriage licenses.

7. The judges of the superior courts, or any one of them, shall have power to issue writs of *mandamus*, prohibition, *scire facias*, and all other writs which may be necessary for carrying their powers fully into effect.

8. Within five years after the adoption of this Constitution, the body of our laws, civil and criminal, shall be revised, digested, and arranged under proper heads, and promulgated in such manner as the Legislature may direct; and no person shall be debarred from advocating or defending his cause, before any court or tribunal, either by himself or counsel, or both.

9. Divorces shall not be granted by the Legislature, until the parties shall have had a fair trial before the Superior Court, and a verdict shall have been obtained, authorizing a divorce upon legal principles. And in such cases, two-thirds of each branch of the Legislature may pass acts of divorce accordingly.

10. The clerks of the superior and inferior courts shall be appointed in such manner as the Legislature may by law direct. shall be commissioned by the Governor, and shall continue in office during good behavior.

11. Sheriffs shall be appointed in such manner as the General Assembly may by law direct, and shall hold their appointments for the term of two years unless sooner removed by sentence on impeachment, or by the Governor on the address of two-thirds of the justices of the inferior court and of the peace in the county; but no person shall be twice elected sheriff within any term of four years; and no county officer after the next election shall be chosen at the time of electing a senator or representative.

#### ARTICLE IV.

SEC. 1. The electors of members of the General Assembly shall be citizens and inhabitants of this State, and shall have attained the age of twenty-one years, and have paid all taxes which may have been required of them, and which they may have had an opportunity of paying, agreeably to law, for the year preceding the election, and shall have resided six months within the county: provided, that in case of an invasion, and the inhabitants shall be driven from any county, so as to prevent an election therein, such refugee inhabitants, being a majority of the voters of such county, may meet under the direction of any three justices of the peace thereof, in the nearest county, not in a state of alarm, and proceed to an election, without having paid such tax so required of electors; and the persons elected thereat shall be entitled to their seats.

2. All elections by the General Assembly shall be by joint ballot of both branches of the Legislature; and when the Senate and House of Representatives unite for the purpose of electing, they shall meet in the representative chamber, and the President of the Senate shall in such case preside, receive the ballots, and declare the person or persons elected. In all elections by the people, the electors shall vote *viva voce*, until the Legislature shall otherwise direct.

3. The general officers of the militia shall be elected by the General Assembly, and shall be commissioned by the Governor. All other officers of the militia shall be elected in such manner as the Legislature may direct, and shall be commissioned by the Governor; and all militia officers now in commission, and those which may be hereafter commissioned, shall hold their commissions during their usual residence within the division, brigade, regiment, battalion, or company to which they belong, unless removed by sentence of a court-martial, or by the Governor, on the address of two-thirds of each branch of the General Assembly.

4. All persons appointed by the Legislature to fill vacancies shall continue in office only so long as to complete the time for which their predecessors were appointed.

5. Freedom of the press, and trial by jury, as heretofore used in this State, shall remain inviolate; and no ex post facto law shall be passed.

6. No person who heretofore hath been, or hereafter may be, a collector, or holder of public moneys, shall be eligible to any office in this State, until such person shall have accounted for and paid into the treasury all sums for which he may be accountable or liable.

7. The person of a debtor, where there is not a strong presumption of fraud, shall not be detained in prison after delivering up, *bona fide*, all his estate, real and personal, for the use of his creditors, in such manner as shall be hereafter regulated by law.

8. Convictions on impeachments which have heretofore taken place, are hereby released, and persons lying under such convictions restored to citizenship.

9. The writ of habeas corpus shall not be suspended, unless when in case of rebellion or invasion the public safety may require it.

10. No person within the State shall, upon any pretence, be deprived of the inestimable privilege of worshiping God in a manner agreeable to his own conscience, nor be compelled to attend any place of worship contrary to his own faith and judgment; nor shall he ever be obliged to pay tithes, taxes, or any other rate for the building or repairing any place of worship, or for the maintenance of any minister or ministry, contrary to what he believes to be right, or hath voluntarily engaged to do. No one religious society shall ever be established in this State, in preference to any other; nor shall any person be denied the enjoyment of any civil right, merely on account of his religious principles.

11. There shall be no future importation of slaves into this State,



from Africa or any foreign place, after the first day of October next. The Legislature shall have no power to pass laws for the emancipation of slaves without the consent of each of their respective owners, previous to such emancipation. They shall have no power to prevent emigrants from either of the United States to this State, from bringing with them such persons as may be deemed slaves by the laws of any one of the United States.

12. Any person who shall maliciously dismember or deprive a slave of his life, shall suffer such punishment as would be inflicted in case the like offence had been committed on a free white person, and on the like proof, except in case of insurrection by such slave, and unless such death should happen by accident, in giving such slave moderate correction.

13. The arts and sciences shall be promoted, in one or more seminaries of learning; and the Legislature shall, as soon as conveniently may be, give such further donations and privileges to those already established, as may be necessary to secure the objects of their institution; and it shall be the duty of the General Assembly, at their next session, to provide effectual measures for the improvement and permanent security of the funds and endowments of such institutions.

14. All civil officers shall continue in the exercise of the duties of their several offices, during the periods for which they were appointed, or until they shall be superseded by appointments made in conformity to this Constitution: and all laws now in force shall continue to operate, so far as they are compatible with this Constitution until repealed; and it shall be the duty of the General Assembly to pass all necessary laws and regulations for carrying this Constitution into full effect.

15. No part of this Constitution shall be altered, unless a bill for that purpose, specifying the alterations intended to be made, shall have been read three times in the House of Representatives, and three times in the Senate, on three several days in each house, and agreed to by two-thirds of each house respectively; and when any such bill shall be passed in manner aforesaid, the same shall be published at least six months previous to the next ensuing annual election for members of the General Assembly; and if such alterations, or any of them, so proposed, shall be agreed to in their first session thereafter, by two-thirds of each branch of the General Assembly, after the same shall have been read three times, on three separate days, in each respective house, then, and not otherwise, the same shall become a part of this Constitution.

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## AMENDMENTS TO THE CONSTITUTION,

*Adopted in 1839.*

Whereas a part of the thirty-first section of the first article of the Constitution is in the following words, viz.: The Senate shall be

elected annually ; and a part of the seventh section of the first article is in the following words : The representatives shall be chosen annually ; and a part of the twelfth section of the first article is in the following words : The meeting of the General Assembly shall be annually , and whereas a part of the third section of the third article is in the following words : There shall be a State's Attorney and Solicitor appointed by the Legislature and commissioned by the Governor, who shall hold their offices for the term of three years ; and a part of the fifteenth section of the fourth article is in the following words : The same shall be published at least six months previous to the next ensuing annual election for members of the General Assembly ; and whereas the before-recited clauses require amendments.

SEC. 1. Be it enacted, by the Senate and House of Representatives of the State of Georgia, in General Assembly met, and it is hereby enacted, by the authority of the same, that, so soon as this act shall have passed, agreeably to the requisitions of the Constitution, the following shall be adopted in lieu of the foregoing clauses : In the third section of the first article, the following, to wit : The Senate shall be elected *biennially*, after the passage of this act—the first election to take place on the first Monday in 1843. In lieu of the seventh section of the first article, the following : The representatives shall be elected biennially, after the passing of this act—the first election to take place the first Monday in October, eighteen hundred and forty-three ; and in lieu of the clause in the twelfth section in the first article, the following : The meeting of the General Assembly shall be biennially, after the passage of this act, on the first Monday in November ; and in lieu of the clause in the third section of the third article, the following, to wit : There shall be a State Attorney and Solicitor elected by the Legislature, who shall hold their office for the term of four years ; and in lieu of the clause in the fifteenth section of the fourth article, the following : The same shall be published at least six months previous to the next ensuing biennial election for members of the General Assembly—the provisions of this act not to go into effect until the year eighteen hundred and forty-three.

2. And be it further enacted, by the authority of the aforesaid, that whenever it shall so happen that the term of office of any of the judges, State Attorney, or solicitors, shall expire at any time during the recess of the General Assembly, then and in that case it shall be the duty of his excellency, the Governor, to fill such vacancy by appointment, until the next General Assembly thereafter to be held, when such vacancy shall be filled by election by the Legislature, until the next election of judges, State's Attorney, or solicitors, shall take place.



*Approved February 7th, 1854.*

An act to alter and amend the third section of the third article of the Constitution of the State of Georgia, by striking out the following words, to wit: "appointed by the Legislature," and inserting in lieu thereof the words following, to wit: "elected by the persons entitled to vote for members of the Legislature, at such time and in such manner as the Legislature shall or may by law direct, and to add an additional section to the first article of the Constitution.

SEC. 1. Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the State of Georgia in General Assembly met, and it is hereby enacted by the authority of the same, That as soon as this act shall have passed, agreeably to the requirements of the Constitution of this State, the said third section of the third article of the Constitution of the State of Georgia be altered and amended by striking out the following words, to wit: "appointed by the Legislature," and inserting and adopting in lieu thereof the words following, to wit: "elected by the persons entitled to vote for members of the Legislature, at such times and in such manner as the Legislature shall or may by law direct."

2. And be it further enacted, that the following words shall be added to the first article of the Constitution, as an additional section thereof, to wit: The Legislature shall have no power to grant corporate powers and privileges, except to Banking, Telegraph, and Railroad Companies, nor to change names, establish bridges or ferries, but shall by law prescribe the manner in which said power shall be exercised by the Superior or inferior Courts, and the privileges to be enjoyed.\*

*Approved November 21st, 1857.*

An act to alter and amend the twelfth section of the first article of the Constitution of this State.

SEC. 1. Be it enacted, That so soon as this bill shall be passed by the General Assembly, agreeably to the requirements of the Constitution, the following section shall be adopted in lieu of the twelfth section of the first article of the Constitution:

The meeting of the General Assembly shall be annual, and on the first Wednesday in November, until such day of meeting be altered by law. A majority of each branch shall be authorized to proceed to business; but a smaller number shall adjourn from day to day, and compel the attendance of their members in such manner as each house shall prescribe, but no session of the General Assembly shall continue for more than forty days, unless the same shall be done by a vote of two-thirds of both branches of the General Assembly, the vote to be taken by yeas and nays.

The compensation of the members and officers of the General Assembly shall be fixed by law.

\* 1st. By Section 3rd, Article III, Solicitors General elected by Legislature. Cobb's Digest, 1122. 2nd. This act modifies Section 22 of Article I, by which the Assembly have power to pass all laws, &c. Cobb, 1115.

Supreme Court Decisions. 8 Geo. 216, on Article XXII, not to be opposed to the Constitution, Laws of Congress, or Treaties; cannot give a city power to repeal a Stat., 12 Geo. 464.

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## FLORIDA.



FLORIDA was discovered by Sebastian Cabot, sailing under the English Flag in 1497. Ponce de Leon, a Spanish adventurer from Hispaniola, explored this country in part in 1512, and again in 1516.

In 1539, Hernando de Soto, who had been an officer under Pizarro in the conquest of Peru, sailed from Cuba (of which he was Governor), with an armed force to Florida. They soon overran the peninsula, but his followers were mostly cut off, and he soon after died.

In 1763 this territory was ceded to Great Britain by Spain, in exchange for Havanna. The Spanish reconquered it in 1781, and it was confirmed to them in 1783. In 1821 the Spaniards ceded it to the United States, as a compensation for spolations in their commerce.

This State was admitted into the Union on the 3d of March 1845. Its Constitution was adopted in 1838. Area, 57,000 sq. ms. Pop. in 1850, 87,387. of which 39,341 are slaves, and 926 Free blacks; 1855, 110,823.

### CONSTITUTION.

WE, the people of the Territory of Florida, by our delegates in Convention assembled, at the city of St. Joseph, on Monday, the third day of December, A. D. 1838. and of the Independence of the United States the sixty-third year, having and claiming the right of admission into the Union, as one of the United States of America, consistent with the principles of the federal Constitution, and by virtue of the treaty of amity, settlement, and limits between the United States of America and the King of Spain, ceding the provinces of East and West Florida to the United States; in order to secure to ourselves and our posterity the enjoyment of all the rights of life, liberty, and property, and the pursuit of happiness, do mutually agree, each with the other, to form ourselves into a free and independent State, by the name of the State of Florida.

ARTICLE I.—*Declaration of Rights.*

That the great and essential principles of liberty and free government may be recognized and established, we declare:

SEC. 1. That all freemen, when they form a social compact, are equal, and have certain inherent and indefeasible rights, among which are those of enjoying and defending life and liberty; of acquiring, possessing, and protecting property and reputation; and of pursuing their own happiness.

2. That all political power is inherent in the people, and all free governments are founded on their authority, and established for their benefit; and therefore they have, at all times, an inalienable and indefeasible right to alter or abolish their form of government in such manner as they may deem expedient.

3. That all men have a natural and inalienable right to worship Almighty God according to the dictates of their own conscience; and that no preference shall ever be given by law to any religious establishment, or mode of worship, in this State.

4. That all elections shall be free and equal, and that no property qualification for eligibility to office, or for the right of suffrage, shall ever be required in this State.

5. That every citizen may freely speak, write, and publish his sentiments, on all subjects, being responsible for the abuse of that liberty; and no law shall ever be passed to curtail, abridge, or restrain the liberty of speech or of the press.

6. That the right of trial by jury shall forever remain inviolate.

7. That the people shall be secure in their persons, houses, papers, and possessions, from unreasonable seizures and searches; and that no warrant to search any place, or to seize any person or thing, shall issue, without describing the place to be searched, and the person or thing to be seized, as nearly as may be, nor without probable cause, supported by oath or affirmation.

8. That no freeman shall be taken, imprisoned, or disseized of his freehold, liberties, or outlawed, or exiled, or in any manner destroyed, or deprived of his life, liberty, or property, but by the law of the land.

9. That all courts shall be open, and every person, for an injury done him in his lands, goods, person, or reputation, shall have remedy by due course of law; and right and justice administered without sale, denial, or delay.

10. That in all criminal prosecutions, the accused hath a right to be heard, by himself or counsel, or both; to demand the nature and cause of the accusation; to be confronted with the witnesses against him; to have compulsory process for obtaining witnesses in his favor; and in all prosecutions by indictment or presentment, a speedy and public trial, by an impartial jury of the county or district where the offence was committed, and shall not be compelled to give evidence against himself.



11. That all persons shall be bailable, by sufficient securities, unless in capital offences, where the proof is evident or the presumption strong; and the privilege of *habeas corpus* shall not be suspended, unless when, in case of rebellion or invasion, the public safety may require it.

12. That excessive bail shall in no case be required; nor shall excessive fines be imposed, nor shall cruel or unusual punishments be inflicted.

13. That no person shall, for the same offence, be twice put in jeopardy of life or limb.

14. That private property shall not be taken or applied to public use, unless just compensation be made therefor.

15. That in all prosecutions and indictments for libel, the truth may be given in evidence; and if it shall appear to the jury that the libel is true, and published with good motives, and for justifiable ends, the truth shall be a justification; and the jury shall be the judges of the law and facts.

16. That no person shall be put to answer any criminal charge, but by presentment, indictment, or impeachment.

17. That no conviction shall work corruption of blood or forfeiture of estate.

18. That retrospective laws, punishing acts committed before the existence of such laws, and by them only declared penal or criminal, are oppressive, unjust, and incompatible with liberty; wherefore no *ex post facto* law shall ever be made.

19. That no law impairing the obligation of contracts shall ever be passed.

20. That the people have a right, in a peaceable manner, to assemble together to consult for the common good; and to apply to those invested with the powers of government for redress of grievances, or other proper purposes, by petition, address, or remonstrance.

21. That the free white men of this State shall have a right to keep and to bear arms for their common defense.

22. That no soldier, in time of peace, shall be quartered in any house, without the consent of the owner; nor in time of war, but in a manner prescribed by law.

23. That no standing army shall be kept up, without the consent of the Legislature; and the military shall, in all cases, and at all times, be in strict subordination to the civil power.

24. That perpetuities and monopolies are contrary to the genius of a free State, and ought not to be allowed.

25. That no hereditary emoluments, privileges, or honors, shall ever be granted or conferred in this State.

26. That frequent recurrence to fundamental principles is absolutely necessary to preserve the blessings of liberty.

27. That, to guard against transgressions upon the rights of the people, we declare that everything in this article is excepted out of the general powers of government, and shall forever remain invio-

late; and that all laws contrary thereto, or to the following provisions, shall be void.

ARTICLE II.—*Distribution of the Powers of Government.*

SEC. 1. The powers of the government of the State of Florida shall be divided into three distinct departments, and each of them confided to a separate body of magistracy, to wit: those which are legislative, to one, those which are executive, to another, and those which are judicial, to another.

2. No person, or collection of persons, being of one of those departments, shall exercise any power properly belonging to either of the others, except in the instances expressly provided in this Constitution.

ARTICLE III.—*Executive Department.*

SEC. 1. The supreme executive power shall be vested in a chief magistrate, who shall be styled the Governor of the State of Florida.

2. The Governor shall be elected for four years, by the qualified electors at the time and place where they shall vote for representatives; and shall remain in office until a successor be chosen and qualified; and shall not be eligible to a re-election until the expiration of four years thereafter.

3. No person shall be eligible to the office of Governor unless he shall have attained the age of thirty years, shall have been a citizen of the United States ten years, or an inhabitant of Florida at the time of the adoption of this Constitution (being a citizen of the United States), and shall have been a resident of Florida at least five years next preceding the day of election.

4. The returns of every election for Governor shall be sealed up and transmitted to the seat of government, directed to the Speaker of the House of Representatives, who shall, during the first week of the session open and publish them in the presence of both houses of the General Assembly; and the person having the highest number of votes shall be Governor. But if two or more shall be equal, and highest in votes, one of them shall be chosen Governor by the joint vote of the two houses; and contested elections for Governor shall be determined by both houses of the General Assembly, in such manner as shall be prescribed by law.

5. He shall, at stated times, receive a compensation for his services, which shall not be increased or diminished during the term for which he shall have been elected.

6. He shall be commander-in-chief of the army and navy of this State, and of the militia thereof.

7. He may require information in writing from the officers of the executive department, on any subject relating to the duties of their respective offices.

8. He may, by proclamation, on extraordinary occasions, convene



the General Assembly at the seat of government, or at a different place if that shall have become dangerous from an enemy or from disease; and, in case of disagreement between the two houses with respect to the time of adjournment, he may adjourn them to such time as he shall think proper—not beyond the day of the next meeting designated by this Constitution.

9. He shall, from time to time, give to the General Assembly, information of the state of the government, and recommend to their consideration such measures as he may deem expedient.

10. He shall take care that the laws be faithfully executed.

11. In all criminal and penal cases (except of treason and impeachment), after conviction, he shall have power to grant reprieves and pardons, and remit fines and forfeitures, under such rules and regulations as shall be prescribed by law; and in cases of treason, he shall have power, by and with the advice and consent of the Senate, to grant reprieves and pardons; and he may, in the recess of the Senate, respite the sentence until the end of the next session of the General Assembly.

12. There shall be a seal of the State, which shall be kept by the Governor, and used by him officially, with such device as the Governor first elected may direct; and the present seal of the territory shall be the seal of the State, until otherwise directed by the General Assembly.

13. All commissions shall be in the name and by the authority of the State of Florida, be sealed with the State seal, and signed by the Governor, and attested by the Secretary of State.

14. There shall be a Secretary of State appointed by a joint vote of both houses of the General Assembly, who shall continue in office during the term of four years; and he shall keep a fair register of the official acts and proceedings of the Governor, and shall, when required, lay the same and all papers, minutes, and vouchers relative thereto, before the General Assembly, and shall perform such other duties as may be required of him by law.

15. Vacancies that happen in offices the appointment of which is vested in the General Assembly, or given to the Governor with the advice and consent of the Senate, shall be filled by the Governor during the recess of the General Assembly, by granting commissions, which shall expire at the end of the next session.

16. Every bill, which shall have passed both houses of the General Assembly, shall be presented to the Governor; if he approve, he shall sign it; but if not, he shall return it, with his objections, to the house in which it shall have originated, who shall enter the objections at large upon the journal, and proceed to reconsider it; and if, after such reconsideration, a majority of the whole number elected to that house shall agree to pass the bill, it shall be sent, with the objections, to the other house, by which it shall likewise be reconsidered; and if approved by a majority of the whole number elected to that house, it shall become a law. But in such cases, the votes of

both houses shall be by yeas and nays, and the names of the members voting for or against the bill shall be entered on the journals of each house, respectively; and if any bill shall not be returned by the Governor within five days (Sundays excepted) after it shall have been presented to him, the same shall be a law in like manner as if he had signed it, unless the General Assembly, by their adjournment, prevent its return; in which case, it shall not be a law.

17. Every order, resolution, or vote, to which the concurrence of both houses may be necessary, except on questions of adjournment, shall be presented to the Governor; and, before it shall take effect, be approved by him, or, being disapproved, be repassed by both houses, according to the rules and limitations prescribed in case of a bill.

18. In case of the impeachment of the Governor, his removal from office, death, refusal to qualify, resignation, or absence from the State, the President of the Senate shall exercise all the power and authority appertaining to the office of Governor, during the term for which the Governor was elected; unless the General Assembly shall provide by law for the election of a Governor to fill such vacancy, or until the Governor so absent or impeached shall return or be acquitted.

19. If, during the vacancy of the office of Governor, the President of the Senate shall be impeached, removed from office, refuse to qualify, resign, die, or be absent from the State, the Speaker of the House of Representatives shall, in like manner, administer the government.

20. The President of the Senate, or Speaker of the House of Representatives, during the time he administers the government, shall receive the same compensation which the Governor would have received.

21. The Governor shall always reside, during the sessions of the General Assembly, at the place where their sessions are held, and at all other times, wherever, in their opinion, the public good may require.

22. No person shall hold the office of Governor, and any other office or commission, civil or military, either in this State, or under any State, or the United States, or any other power, at one and the same time, except the President of the Senate, or the Speaker of the House of Representatives, when he shall hold the office, as aforesaid.

23. A State treasurer and comptroller of public accounts shall be elected by joint vote of both houses of the General Assembly, at each regular session thereof.

#### ARTICLE IV.—*Legislative Department.*

SEC. 1. The legislative power of this State shall be vested in two distinct branches—the one to be styled the Senate, the other the House of Representatives, and both together “the General Assembly of the State of Florida;” and the style of the laws shall be, “Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the State of Florida in General Assembly convened.”



2. The members of the House of Representatives shall be chosen by the qualified voters, and shall serve for the term of one year, from the day of the commencement of the general election, and no longer; and the sessions of the General Assembly shall be annual, and commence on the fourth Monday in November, in each year, or at such other times as may be prescribed by law.

3. The representatives shall be chosen every year, on the first Monday in the month of October, until otherwise directed by law.

4. No person shall be a representative unless he be a white man, a citizen of the United States, and shall have been an inhabitant of the State two years next preceding his election, and the last year thereof a resident of the county for which he shall be chosen, and shall have attained the age of twenty-one years.

5. The senators shall be chosen by the qualified electors for the term of two years, at the same time, in the same manner, and in the same places, where they vote for members of the House of Representatives; and no man shall be a senator unless he be a white man, a citizen of the United States, and shall have been an inhabitant of this State two years next preceding his election, and the last year thereof a resident of the district or county for which he shall be chosen, and shall have attained the age of twenty-five years.

6. The senators, after their first election, shall be divided by lot into two classes; and the seats of the senators of the first class shall be vacated at the expiration of the first year, and of the second class at the expiration of the second year; so that one-half thereof, as near as possible, may be chosen forever thereafter, annually, for the term of two years.

7. The House of Representatives, when assembled, shall choose a Speaker and its other officers; and the Senate a President and its other officers; and each house shall be judge of the qualifications, elections, and returns of its members; but a contested election shall be determined in such manner as shall be directed by law.

8. A majority of each house shall constitute a quorum to do business, but a smaller number may adjourn from day to day, and may compel the attendance of absent members, in such manner and under such penalties as each house may prescribe.

9. Each house may determine the rules of its own proceedings, punish its members for disorderly behavior, and, with the consent of two-thirds, expel a member, but not a second time for the same cause.

10. Each house during the session, may punish by imprisonment any person, not a member, for disrespectful or disorderly behavior in its presence, or for obstructing any of its proceedings, provided such imprisonment shall not extend beyond the end of the session.

11. Each house shall keep a journal of its proceedings, and cause the same to be published immediately after its adjournment; and the yeas and nays of the members of each house shall be taken and entered upon the journals, upon the final passage of every bill, and

may by any two members, be required upon any other question ; and any member of either house shall have liberty to dissent from, or protest against, any act or resolution which he may think injurious to the public or an individual, and have the reasons of his dissent entered on the journal.

12. Senators and representatives shall in all cases, except treason, felony, or breach of the peace, be privileged from arrest during the session of the General Assembly, and in going to or returning from the same, allowing one day for every twenty miles such member may reside from the place at which the General Assembly is convened ; and for any speech or debate in either house, they shall not be questioned in any other place.

13. The General Assembly shall make provision by law for filling vacancies that may occur in either house, by the death, resignation, or otherwise, of any of its members.

14. The doors of each house shall be open, except on such occasions as, in the opinion of the house, the public safety may imperiously require secrecy.

15. Neither house shall, without the consent of the other, adjourn for more than three days, nor to any other place than that in which they may be sitting.

16. Bills may originate in either house of the General Assembly, and all bills passed by one house may be discussed, amended, or rejected by the other ; but no bill shall have the force of law until, on three several days, it be read in each house, and free discussion be allowed thereon, unless, in cases of urgency, four-fifths of the house in which the same shall be depending, may deem it expedient to dispense with the rule ; and every bill having passed both houses, shall be signed by the Speaker and President of their respective houses.

17. Each member of the General Assembly shall receive, from the public treasury, such compensation for his services as may be fixed by law ; but no increase of compensation shall take effect during the term for which the representatives were elected when such law passed.

18. The number of members of the House of Representatives shall never exceed sixty.

#### ARTICLE V.—*Judicial Department.*

SEC. 1. The judicial power of this State, both as to matters of law and equity, shall be vested in a Supreme Court, courts of chancery, circuit courts, and justices of the peace : provided the General Assembly may also vest such criminal jurisdiction as may be deemed necessary in corporation courts ; but such jurisdiction shall not extend to capital offences.

2. The Supreme Court, except in cases otherwise directed in this Constitution, shall have appellate jurisdiction only, which shall be co-extensive with the State under such restrictions and regulations,



not repugnant to this Constitution, as may from time to time be prescribed by law; provided that the said Court shall always have power to issue writs of *injunction*, *mandamus*, *quo warranto*, *habeas corpus*, and such other remedial and original writs as may be necessary to give it a general superintendence and control of all other courts.

3. For the term of five years, from the election of the judges of the circuit courts, and thereafter until the General Assembly shall otherwise provide, the powers of the Supreme Court shall be vested in, and its duties performed by, the judges of the several circuit courts within this State; and they or a majority of them, shall hold such sessions of the Supreme Court, and at such times, as may be directed by law.

4. The Supreme Court, when organized, shall be holden at such times and places as may be provided by law.

5. The State shall be divided into at least four convenient circuits; and until other circuits shall be provided for by the General Assembly, the arrangement of the circuits shall be the western, middle, eastern, and southern circuits; and for each circuit there shall be appointed a judge, who shall, after his appointment, reside in the circuit for which he has been appointed, and shall, at stated times, receive for his services a salary of not less than two thousand dollars per annum, which shall not be diminished during the continuance of such judge in office; but the judges shall receive no fees or perquisites of office, nor hold any other office of profit under this State, the United States, or any other power.

6. The circuit courts shall have original jurisdiction in all matters, civil and criminal, within this State, not otherwise excepted in this Constitution.

7. A circuit court shall be held in such counties, and at such times and places therein, as may be prescribed by law; and the judges of the several circuit courts may hold courts for each other, and shall do so when directed by law.

8. The General Assembly shall have power to establish and organize a separate Court or courts of original equity jurisdiction; but until such Court or courts shall be established and organized, the circuit courts shall exercise such jurisdiction.

9. The General Assembly shall provide by law for the appointment, in each county, of an officer to take probate of wills, to grant letters testamentary of administration and guardianship; to attend to the settlements of the estates of decedents and of minors, and to discharge the duties usually pertaining to courts of ordinary, subject to the direction and supervision of the courts of chancery, as may be provided by law.

10. A competent number of justices of the peace shall be from time to time appointed or elected in and for each county, in such mode and for such term of office as the General Assembly may direct, and shall possess such jurisdiction as may be prescribed by

law; and in cases tried before a justice of the peace, the right of appeal shall be secured, under such rules and regulations as may be prescribed by law.

11. Justices of the Supreme Court, chancellors, and judges of the circuit courts, shall be elected by the concurrent vote of a majority of both houses of the General Assembly.

12. The judges of the Circuit Court shall, at the first session of the General Assembly to be holden under this Constitution, be elected for the term of five years, and shall hold their offices for that term, unless sooner removed under the provisions made in this Constitution for removal of judges by address or impeachment; and at the expiration of five years, the justices of the Supreme Court and the judges of the circuit courts shall be elected for the term of and during their good behavior; and for wilful neglect of duty, or other reasonable cause, which shall not be sufficient ground for impeachment, the Governor shall remove any of them, on the address of two-thirds of each house of the General Assembly; provided, however, that the cause or causes shall be stated at length in such address, and entered on the journals of each house; and provided, further, that the cause or causes shall be notified to the judge so intended to be removed, and he shall be admitted to a hearing in his own defense, before any vote for such address shall pass; and in such cases the vote shall be taken by yeas and nays, and entered on the journals of each house respectively.

13. The clerk of the Supreme Court, and the clerks of the courts of chancery, shall be elected by the General Assembly; and the clerks of the circuit courts shall be elected by the qualified electors, in such mode as may be prescribed by law.

14. The justices of the Supreme Court, chancellors, and judges of the circuit courts, shall, by virtue of their offices, be conservators of the peace throughout the State, and justices of the peace in their respective counties.

15. The style of all proceesses shall be, "the State of Florida;" and all criminal prosecutions shall be carried on in the name of the State of Florida, and all indietments shall conclude, "against the peace and dignity of the same."

16. There shall be an Attorney-General for the State, who shall reside at the seat of government. It shall be his duty to attend all sessions of the General Assembly, and, upon the passage of any act, to draught and submit to the General Assembly, at the same session, all necessary forms of proceedings under such laws, which, when approved, shall be published therewith; and he shall perform such other duties as may be prescribed by law. He shall be elected by joint vote of the two houses of the General Assembly, and shall hold his office for four years; but may be removed by the Governor, on the address of two-thirds of the two houses of the General Assembly; and shall receive for his services a compensation to be fixed by law.



17. There shall be one solicitor for each circuit, who shall reside therein, to be elected by the joint vote of the General Assembly, who shall hold his office for the term of four years, and shall receive for his services a compensation to be fixed by law.

18. No justice of the Supreme Court shall sit as judge, or take part in the appellate court, on the trial or hearing of any case which shall have been decided by him in the court below.

19. The General Assembly shall have power to establish in each county a board of commissioners for the regulation of the county business therein.

20. No duty not judicial shall be imposed by law upon the justices of the Supreme Court, chancellors, or the judges of the circuit courts of this State.

## ARTICLE VI.

### *The Right of Suffrage and Qualifications of officers; Civil Offices; and Impeachments and Removals from Office.*

SEC. 1. Every free white male person of the age of twenty-one years and upwards, and who shall be, at the time of offering to vote, a citizen of the United States, and who shall have resided and had his habitation, domicil, home, and place of permanent abode, in Florida, for two years next preceding the election at which he shall offer to vote, and who shall have at such time, and for six months immediately preceding said time shall have had his habitation, domicil, home, and place of permanent abode, in the county in which he may offer to vote, and who shall be enrolled in the militia thereof (unless by law exempted from serving in the militia,) shall be deemed a qualified elector at all elections under this Constitution, and none others, except at elections by general ticket in the State or district prescribed by law; in which cases, the elector must have been a resident of the State two years next preceding the election, and six months within the election district in which he offers to vote: provided that no soldier, seaman, or marine in the regular army or navy of the United States, unless he be a qualified elector of the State previous to his enlistment as such soldier, seaman or marine in the regular army or navy of the United States, or the revenue service, shall be considered a resident of the State, in consequence of being stationed within the same.

2. The General Assembly shall, at its first session, provide for the registration of all the qualified electors in each county, and thereafter, from time to time, of all who may become such qualified electors.

3. No president, director, cashier, or other officer, of any banking company in this State, shall be eligible to the office of Governor, senator, or representative to the General Assembly of this State, so long as he shall be such president, director, cashier, or other officer, nor until the lapse of twelve months from the time at which he shall have ceased to be such president, director, cashier, or other officer.

4. The General Assembly shall have power to exclude from every office of honor, trust, or profit, within the State, and from the right of suffrage, all persons convicted of bribery, perjury, or other infamous crime.

5. No person shall be capable of holding, or of being elected to any post of honor, profit, trust, or emolument, civil or military, legislative, executive or judicial, under the government of this State, who shall hereafter fight a duel, or send or accept a challenge to fight a duel, the probable issue of which may be the death of the challenger or challenged, or who shall be a second to either party, or who shall in any manner aid or assist in such duel, or shall be knowingly the bearer of such challenge or acceptance, whether the same occur or be committed in or out of the State.

6. No person who may hereafter be a collector or holder of public moneys, shall have a seat in either house of the General Assembly, or be eligible to any office of trust or profit under this State, until he shall have accounted for, and paid into the treasury, all sums for which he may be accountable.

7. No Governor, member of Congress, or of the General Assembly of this State, shall receive a fee, be engaged as counsel, agent, or attorney, in any civil case or claim against this State, or to which this State shall be a party, during the time he shall remain in office.

8. No Governor, justice of the Supreme Court, chancellor, or judge in this State, shall be eligible to election or appointment to any other and different station, or office, or post of honor or emolument, under this State, or to the station of senator or representative in the Congress of the United States from this State, until one year after he shall have ceased to be such governor, justice, chancellor, or judge.

9. No senator or representative shall, during the term for which he shall have been elected, be appointed to any civil office of profit under this State, which shall have been created, or the emoluments of which shall have been increased, during such term, except such offices as may be filled by elections by the people.

10. No minister of the gospel shall be eligible to the office of governor, senator, or member of the House of Representatives of this State.

11. Members of the General Assembly, and all officers, civil and military, before they enter upon the execution of their respective offices, shall take the following oath or affirmation: "I, —, do swear (or affirm) that I am duly qualified, according to the Constitution of this State, to exercise the office to which I have been elected (or appointed), and will, to the best of my abilities, discharge the duties thereof, and preserve, protect, and defend the Constitution of this State and of the United States."

12. Every person shall be disqualified from serving as governor, senator, representative, or from holding any other office of honor or profit in this State, for the term for which he shall have been elected.



who shall have been convicted of having given or offered any bribe to procure his election.

13. Laws shall be made by the General Assembly, to exclude from office and from suffrage those who shall have been, or may thereafter be, convicted of bribery, perjury, forgery, or other high crime or misdemeanor; and the privilege of suffrage shall be supported by laws regulating elections, and prohibiting, under adequate penalties, all undue influence thereon from power, bribery, tumult, or other improper practices.

14. All civil officers of the State at large shall reside within the State, and all district or county officers within their respective districts or counties, and shall keep their respective offices at such places therein as may be required by law.

15. It shall be the duty of the General Assembly to regulate by law in what cases and what deduction from the salaries of public officers shall be made for neglect of duty in their official capacity.

16. Returns of elections for members of Congress and the General Assembly shall be made to the Secretary of State, in manner to be prescribed by law.

17. In all elections by the General Assembly, the vote shall be *viva voce*; and in all elections by the people, the vote shall be by ballot.

18. No member of Congress, or person holding or exercising any office of profit under the United States, or under any foreign power, shall be eligible as a member of the General Assembly of this State, or hold or exercise any office of profit under the State; and no person in this State shall ever hold two offices of profit at the same time, except the office of justice of the peace, notary public, constable, and militia offices.

19. The General Assembly shall by law provide for the appointment or election and the removal from office, of all officers, civil and military, in this State, not provided for in this Constitution.

20. The power of impeachment shall be vested in the House of Representatives.

21. All impeachments shall be tried by the Senate; and when sitting for that purpose, the senators shall be upon oath or affirmation; and no person shall be convicted without the concurrence of two-thirds of the members present.

22. The Governor, and all civil officers, shall be liable to impeachment for any misdemeanor in office: but judgment in such cases shall not extend further than to removal from office, and disqualification to hold any office of honor, trust, or profit, under this State: but the parties shall nevertheless be liable to indictment, trial, and punishment, according to law.

#### ARTICLE VII.—*Militia.*

All militia officers shall be elected by those persons who are sub-

ject to military duty, within their respective companies, regiments, or battalions.

#### ARTICLE VIII.—*Taxation and Revenue.*

No greater amount of tax or revenue shall be levied, than may be required for the necessary expenses of government. A regular statement of the receipts and expenditures of all the public moneys shall be published annually, with the laws of the General Assembly.

#### ARTICLE IX.

This article provides for the taking of the census every ten years, of the inhabitants of the State; and that to the whole number of free white inhabitants shall be added three-fifths of the number of slaves; and that the representatives shall be equally apportioned in the different counties, according to such enumeration: each county shall have at least one representative, and increase in a uniform ratio of population. The State is divided into sixteen senatorial districts: each district shall be entitled to at least one senator; the number of senators shall not be less than one-fourth, nor more than one-half, of the whole number of representatives, and chosen in the same manner.

#### ARTICLE X.—*Education.*

The proceeds of all lands granted by the United States, for the use of schools, shall remain a perpetual fund—the interest of which shall be used for the benefit of said schools, and for no other purpose.

#### ARTICLE XI.

This article makes it the duty of the General Assembly to provide for the safety, security, and appropriation of the proceeds of the public lands. And it also provides for the encouragement of such internal improvements as are essential to the development of the resources of the country.

#### ARTICLE XII.

This article refers only to the extent of the jurisdiction of Florida, embracing the territory ceded to the United States in 1819.

#### ARTICLE XIII.—*Banks and other Corporations.*

No act of incorporation shall be passed, or altered, except by the assent of two-thirds of each branch of the Legislature. No bank charter shall be granted for more than twenty years, nor shall it be extended, or renewed. The capital of a bank shall not exceed one hundred thousand dollars; nor shall a dividend be made exceeding ten per cent. a year. Stockholders shall be individually liable for the debts of the bank; and no note shall be issued for less than five dollars. The credit of the State shall not be pledged in aid of any corporation whatsoever.



## ARTICLE XIV.

No convention of the people shall be called, unless by the concurrence of two-thirds of each house of the General Assembly. No part of the Constitution shall be altered, unless the bill to alter first be read three times in each house, for three several days, and agreed to by two-thirds of each house; the same to be published six months previous to a new election for members of the House of Representatives.

## ARTICLE XV.

The seat of government shall remain at Tallahassee for the term of five years; the General Assembly then shall have the power to remove it to some other point for five years.

ARTICLE XVI.—*General Provisions.*

SEC. 1. The General Assembly shall have no power to pass laws for the emancipation of slaves.

2. They shall have no power to prevent emigrants to this State from bringing with them such persons as may be deemed slaves by the laws of any one of the United States: *provided* they shall have power to enact laws to prevent the introduction of any slaves who may have committed crimes in other States.

3. The General Assembly shall have power to pass laws to prevent free negroes, mulattoes, and other persons of color, from immigrating to this State, or from being discharged from on board any vessel in any of the ports of Florida.

4. Treason against the State shall consist only in levying war against it, or in adhering to its enemies, giving them aid and comfort. No person shall be convicted of treason, unless on the testimony of two witnesses to the same overt act, or his confession in open court.

5. Divorces from the bonds of matrimony shall not be allowed but by the judgment of a court, as shall be prescribed by law.

6. The General Assembly shall declare by law, what parts of the common law, and what parts of the civil law, not inconsistent with this Constitution, shall be in force in this State.

7. The oaths of officers, directed to be taken under this Constitution, may be administered by any judge or justice of the peace of the territory or State of Florida, until otherwise prescribed by law.

## ALABAMA.



THIS State was first included in the territorial limits of Georgia, except a small part which belonged to Florida. In 1802 Georgia ceded to the United States all her territory lying west of the Chatahooche river and extending to the Mississippi river. In 1817 it was constituted the Mississippi territory. In 1820 it became an independent State, and was admitted into the Union. Alabama adopted its Constitution in 1819.

Area, 46,000 sq. m. Pop. in 1850, 771,671—of whom 342,894 are slaves. Free colored, 2,250. Pop. in 1855, 841,704.

## CONSTITUTION.

### ARTICLE I.—*Declaration of Rights.*

That the general, great, and essential principles of liberty and free government may be recognized and established, we declare :

SEC. 1. That all freemen, when they form a social compact, are equal in rights; and that no man or set of men are entitled to exclusive, separate public emoluments or privileges, but in consideration of public services.

2. All political power is inherent in the people, and all free governments are founded on their authority, and instituted for their



benefit : and, therefore, they have at all times an inalienable and indefeasible right to alter, reform, or abolish their form of government, in such manner as they may think expedient.

3. No person within this State shall, upon any pretence, be deprived of the inestimable privilege of worshipping God in the manner most agreeable to his own conscience ; nor be compelled to attend any place of worship ; nor shall any one ever be obliged to pay any tithes, taxes, or other rate, for the building or repairing any place of worship, or for the maintenance of any minister or ministry.

4. No human authority ought, in any case whatever, to control or interfere with the rights of conscience.

5. No person shall be hurt, molested, or restrained in his religious profession, sentiments, or persuasions, provided he does not disturb others in their religious worship.

6. The civil rights, privileges, or capacities of any citizen, shall in no way be diminished, or enlarged, on account of his religious principles.

7. There shall be no establishment of religion by law ; no preference shall ever be given by law to any religious sect, society, denomination, or mode of worship : and no religious test shall ever be required as a qualification to any office or public trust under this State.

8. Every citizen may freely speak, write, and publish his sentiments on all subjects, being responsible for the abuse of that liberty.

9. The people shall be secure in their persons, houses, papers, and possessions, from unreasonable seizures or searches ; and no warrant to search any place, or to seize any person or thing, shall issue without describing them as nearly as may be, nor without probable cause, supported by oath or affirmation.

10. In all criminal prosecutions, the accused has a right to be heard by himself and counsel ; to demand the nature and cause of the accusation, and have a copy thereof : to be confronted by the witnesses against him : to have compulsory process for obtaining witnesses in his favor, and in all prosecutions, by indictment or information, a speedy public trial by an impartial jury of the county or district in which the offence shall have been committed : he shall not be compelled to give evidence against himself, nor shall he be deprived of his life, liberty, or property, but by due course of law.

11. No person shall be accused, arrested, or detained, except in cases ascertained by law, and according to the forms which the same has prescribed : and no person shall be punished, but in virtue of a law established and promulgated prior to the offence, and legally applied.

12. No person shall, for any indictable offence, be proceeded against criminally, by information ; except in cases arising in the land and naval forces, or the militia when in actual service, or, by leave of the court, for oppression or misdemeanor in office.

13. No person shall, for the same offence, be twice put in jeopardy

of life or limb; nor shall any person's property be taken or applied to public use, unless just compensation be made therefor.

14. All courts shall be open, and every person, for an injury done him, in his lands, goods, person, or reputation, shall have remedy by due course of law, and right and justice administered without sale, denial, or delay.

15. No power of suspending laws shall be exercised, except by the General Assembly, or its authority.

16. Excessive bail shall not be required, nor excessive fines imposed, nor cruel punishments inflicted.

17. All persons shall, before conviction, be bailable by sufficient securities, except for capital offences, when the proof is evident, or the presumption great: and the privilege of the writ of "habeas corpus" shall not be suspended, unless when, in case of rebellion, or invasion, the public safety may require it.

18. The person of a debtor, where there is not strong presumption of fraud, shall not be detained in prison, after delivering up his estate for the benefit of his creditors, in such manner as shall be prescribed by law.

19. No ex post facto law, nor law impairing the obligation of contracts, shall be made.

20. No person shall be attainted of treason or felony by the General Assembly. No attainder shall work corruption of blood, nor forfeiture of estate.

21. The estates of suicides shall descend or vest as in cases of natural death; if any person shall be killed by casualty, there shall be no forfeiture by reason thereof.

22. The citizens have a right, in a peaceable manner, to assemble together for their common good, and to apply to those invested with the powers of government for redress of grievances, or other proper purposes, by petition, address, or remonstrance.

23. Every citizen has a right to bear arms in defense of himself and the State.

24. No standing army shall be kept up without the consent of the General Assembly; and, in that case, no appropriation of money for its support shall be for a longer term than one year; and the military shall, in all cases, and at all times, be in strict subordination to the civil power.

25. No soldier shall, in time of peace, be quartered in any house, without the consent of the owner; nor in time of war, but in a manner to be prescribed by law.

26. No title of nobility, or hereditary distinction, privilege, honor, or emolument, shall ever be granted or conferred in this State; nor shall any office be created, the appointment of which shall be for a longer term than during good behavior.

27. Emigration from this State shall not be prohibited, nor shall any citizen be exiled.

28. The right of trial by jury shall remain inviolate.



29. No person shall be debarred from prosecuting or defending any civil cause, for or against him or herself, before any tribunal in this State, by him or herself or counsel.

30. This enumeration of certain rights shall not be construed to deny or disparage others retained by the people; and to guard against any encroachments on the rights herein retained, or any transgression of any of the high powers herein delegated, we declare, that everything in this article is excepted out of the general powers of government, and shall forever remain inviolate; and that all laws contrary thereto, or to the following provisions, shall be void.

#### ARTICLE II.—*Distribution of Powers.*

SEC. 1. The powers of the government of the State of Alabama shall be divided into three distinct departments; and each of them confided to a separate body of magistracy, to wit: those which are legislative to one; those which are executive to another; and those which are judicial to another.

2. No person, or collection of persons, being one of those departments, shall exercise any power properly belonging to either of the others, except in the instances hereinafter expressly directed or permitted.

#### ARTICLE III.—*Legislative Department.*

SEC. 1. The legislative power of this State shall be vested in two distinct branches: the one to be styled the Senate, and the other the House of Representatives, and both together "the General Assembly of the State of Alabama;" and the style of their laws shall be, "Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the State of Alabama, in General Assembly convened."

2. The members of the House of Representatives shall be chosen by the qualified electors, and shall serve for the term of one year, from the day of the commencement of the general election, and no longer.

3. The representatives shall be chosen every year, on the first Monday and the day following in August, until otherwise directed by law.

4. No person shall be a representative, unless he be a white man, a citizen of the United States, and shall have been an inhabitant of this State two years next preceding his election, and the last year thereof a resident of the county, city, or town, for which he shall be chosen, and shall have attained the age of twenty-one years.

5. Every white male person of the age of twenty-one years, or upwards, who shall be a citizen of the United States, and shall have resided in this State one year next preceding an election, and the last three months within the county, city, or town, in which he offers to vote, shall be deemed a qualified elector: provided, that no soldier, seaman, or marine, in the regular army or navy of the United States, shall be entitled to vote at any election in this State; and

provided, also, that no elector shall be entitled to vote except in the county, city, or town, (entitled to separate representation,) in which he may reside at the time of the election.

6. Electors shall, in all cases, except in those of treason, felony, or breach of the peace, be privileged from arrest during their attendance at elections, and in going to and returning from the same.

7. In all elections by the people, the electors shall vote by ballot. until the General Assembly shall otherwise direct.

8. Elections for representatives for the several counties shall be held at the place of holding their respective courts, and at such other places as may be prescribed by law: Provided, that when it shall appear to the General Assembly that any city or town shall have a number of white inhabitants equal to the ratio then fixed, such city or town shall have a separate representation, according to the number of white inhabitants therein; which shall be retained so long as such city or town shall contain a number of white inhabitants equal to the ratio which may from time to time be fixed by law; and thereafter, and during the existence of the right of separate representation, in such city or town, elections for the county in which such city or town (entitled to such separate representation) is situated, shall not be held in such city or town; but it is understood and hereby declared, that no city or town shall be entitled to separate representation, unless the number of white inhabitants in the county in which such city or town is situated, residing out of the limits of said city or town, be equal to the existing ratio; or unless the residuum or fraction of such city or town shall, when added to the white inhabitants of the county residing out of the limits of said city or town, be equal to the ratio fixed for law by one representative; and provided, that, if the residuum or fraction of any city or town, entitled to separate representation, shall, when added to the residuum of the county in which it may lie, be equal to the ratio fixed by law for one representative, then the aforesaid county, city, or town, having the largest residuum, shall be entitled to such representation: and provided, also, that when there are two or more counties adjoining, which have residuums or fractions over and above the ratio then fixed by law, if said residuums or fractions, when added together, will amount to such ratio, in that case one representative shall be added to that county having the largest residuum.

9. The General Assembly shall, at their first meeting and in the years one thousand eight hundred and twenty, one thousand eight hundred and twenty-three, one thousand eight hundred and twenty-six, and every six years thereafter, cause an enumeration to be made of all the inhabitants of the State, and the whole number of the representatives shall, at the first session held, after making every such enumeration, be fixed by the General Assembly, and apportioned among the several counties, cities, or towns, entitled to separate representation, according to their respective numbers of white inhabitants; and the said apportionment, when made, shall not be



subject to alteration, until after the next census shall be taken. The House of Representatives shall not consist of less than forty-four nor more than sixty members, until the number of white inhabitants shall be one hundred thousand, and after that event, the whole number of representatives shall never be less than sixty, nor more than one hundred: Provided, however, that each county shall be entitled to at least one representative.

10. The General Assembly shall, at the first session, after making every such enumeration, fix by law the whole number of senators, and shall divide the State into the same number of districts, as nearly equal in the number of white inhabitants as may be, each of which districts shall be entitled to one senator and no more: Provided, that the whole number of senators shall never be less than one-fourth, nor more than one-third, of the whole number of representatives.

11. When a senatorial district shall be composed of two or more counties, the counties of which such district consists shall not be entirely separated by any county belonging to another district; and no county shall be divided in forming a district.

12. Senators shall be chosen by the qualified electors, for the term of three years, at the same time, in the same manner, and at the same places, where they may vote for members of the House of Representatives and no person shall be a senator unless he be a white man, a citizen of the United States, and shall have been an inhabitant of this State two years next preceding his election, and the last year thereof a resident of the district for which he shall be chosen, and shall have attained to the age of twenty-seven years.

13. The senators chosen according to the apportionment under the census ordered to be taken in one thousand eight hundred and twenty-six, when convened, shall be divided by lot into three classes, as nearly equal as may be. The seats of the senators of the first class shall be vacated at the expiration of the first year, those of the second class at the expiration of the second year, and those of the third class at the expiration of the third year, so that one-third may be annually chosen thereafter, and a rotation thereby kept up perpetually. Such mode of classifying new additional senators shall be observed as will, as nearly as possible, preserve an equality of members in each class.

14. The House of Representatives, when assembled, shall choose a speaker, and its other officers; and the Senate shall annually choose a President, and its other officers; each house shall judge of the qualifications, elections, and returns of its own members: but a contested election shall be determined in such manner as shall be directed by law.

15. A majority of each house shall constitute a quorum to do business, but a smaller number may adjourn from day to day, and may compel the attendance of absent members in such manner and under such penalties, as each house may provide.

16. Each house may determine the rules of its own proceedings, punish members for disorderly behavior, and with the consent of two-thirds expel a member; but not a second time for the same cause; and shall have all other powers necessary for a branch of the Legislature of a free and independent State.

17. Each house during the session, may punish by imprisonment, any person not a member, for disrespectful or disorderly behavior in its presence, or for obstructing any of its proceedings: Provided, that such imprisonment shall not, at any one time, exceed forty-eight hours.

18. Each house shall keep a journal of its proceedings, and cause the same to be published immediately after its adjournment, excepting such parts as, in its judgment, may require secrecy; and the yeas and nays of the members of either house, on any question, shall at the desire of any two members present, be entered on the journals. And any member of either house shall have liberty to dissent from, or protest against, any act or resolution which he may think injurious to the public or an individual, and have the reasons of his dissent entered on the journals.

19. Senators and representatives shall, in all cases, except treason, felony, or breach of the peace, be privileged from arrest during the session of the General Assembly, and in going to and returning from the same: allowing one day for every twenty miles such members may reside from the place at which the General Assembly is convened; nor shall any member be liable to answer for anything spoken in debate in either house, in any court or place elsewhere.

20. When vacancies happen in either house, the Governor, or the person exercising the powers of the Governor, shall issue writs of election to fill such vacancies.

21. The doors of each house shall be open, except on such occasions as, in the opinion of the house, may require secrecy.

22. Neither house shall, without the consent of the other, adjourn for more than three days, nor to any other place than that in which they may be sitting.

23. Bills may originate in either house, and be amended, altered, or rejected by the other: but no bill shall have the force of a law until on three several days it be read in each house, and free discussion be allowed thereon, unless in cases of urgency, four-fifths of the house in which the bill shall be depending may deem it expedient to dispense with this rule: and every bill, having passed both houses, shall be signed by the Speaker and President of their respective houses: provided that all bills for raising revenue shall originate in the House of Representatives, but the Senate may amend or reject them as other bills.

24. Each member of the General Assembly shall receive from the public treasury such compensation for his services as may be fixed by law; but no increase of compensation shall take effect during the session at which such increase shall have been made.



25. No senator or representative shall, during the term for which he shall have been elected, be appointed to any civil office of profit under this State, which shall have been created, or the emoluments of which shall have been increased, during such term; except such offices as may be filled by elections by the people.

26. No person holding any lucrative office under the United States, (the office of postmaster excepted,) this State, or any other power, shall be eligible to the General Assembly; provided that offices in the militia to which there is attached no annual salary, or the office of justice of the peace, or that of the quorum of the county court, while it has no salary, shall not be deemed lucrative.

27. No person who may hereafter be a collector or holder of public moneys shall have a seat in either house of the General Assembly, or be eligible to any office of trust or profit under this State, until he shall have accounted for, and paid into the treasury, all sums for which he may be accountable.

28. The first election for senators and representatives shall be general throughout the State; and shall be held on the third Monday and Tuesday in September next.

29. The first session of the General Assembly shall commence on the fourth Monday in October next, and be held at the town of Huntsville, and all subsequent sessions at the town of Cahawba, until the end of the first session of the General Assembly to be held in the year one thousand eight hundred and twenty-five; during that session the General Assembly shall have power to designate by law (to which the executive concurrence shall not be required) the permanent seat of government, which shall not thereafter be changed; Provided, however, that unless such designation be then made by law, the government shall continue permanently at the town of Cahawba; and provided, also, that the General Assembly shall make no appropriations previous to the year one thousand eight hundred and twenty-five, for the building of any other state house than that now provided for by law.

#### ARTICLE IV.—*Executive Department.*

SEC. 1. The supreme executive power of this State shall be vested in a chief magistrate, who shall be styled the Governor of the State of Alabama.

2. The Governor shall be elected by the qualified electors at the time and places when they shall respectively vote for representatives.

3. The returns of every election for Governor shall be sealed up, and transmitted to the seat of government, directed to the Speaker of the House of Representatives, who shall, during the first week of the session, open and publish them in presence of both houses of the General Assembly. The person having the highest number of votes shall be Governor, but if two or more shall be equal and highest in votes, one of them shall be chosen Governor by the joint vote of both houses. Contested elections for Governor shall be de-

terminated by both houses of the General Assembly, in such manner as shall be prescribed by law.

4. The Governor shall hold his office for the term of two years from the time of his installation, and until his successor shall be duly qualified, but shall not be eligible for more than four years in any term of six years: he shall be at least thirty years of age, shall be a native citizen of the United States, and shall have resided in this State at least four years next preceding the day of his election.

5. He shall, at stated times, receive a compensation for his services, which shall not be increased or diminished during the term for which he shall have been elected.

6. He shall be commander-in-chief of the army and navy of this State, and of the militia thereof, except when they shall be called into the service of the United States. And when acting in the service of the United States, the General Assembly shall fix his rank.

7. He may require information in writing from the officers in the executive department on any subject relating to the duties of their respective offices.

8. He may, by proclamation, on extraordinary occasions, convene the General Assembly at the seat of government, or at a different place, if that shall have become, since their last adjournment, dangerous from an enemy or from contagious disorders; in case of disagreement between the two houses, with respect to the time of adjournment, he may adjourn them to such time as he shall think proper, not beyond the day of the next annual meeting of the General Assembly.

9. He shall from time to time give to the General Assembly information of the state of the government, and recommend to their consideration such measures as he may deem expedient.

10. He shall take care that the laws be faithfully executed.

11. In all criminal and penal cases, except in those of treason and impeachment, he shall have power to grant reprieves and pardons, and remit fines and forfeitures, under such rules and regulations as shall be prescribed by law. In cases of treason he shall have power, by and with the advice and consent of the Senate, to grant reprieves and pardons; and he may, in the recess of the Senate, respite the sentence until the end of the next session of the General Assembly.

12. There shall be a seal of this State, which shall be kept by the Governor, and used by him officially, and the present seal of the territory shall be the seal of the State, until otherwise directed by the General Assembly.

13. All commissions shall be in the name, and by the authority of the State of Alabama, be sealed with the State seal, signed by the Governor, and attested by the Secretary of State.

14. There shall be a Secretary of State appointed by joint vote of both houses of the General Assembly, who shall continue in office during the term of two years. He shall keep a fair register of all



official acts and proceedings of the Governor, and shall, when required, lay the same, and all papers, minutes, and vouchers relative thereto, before the General Assembly; and shall perform such other duties as may be required of him by law.

15. Vacancies that may happen in offices, the appointment to which is vested in the General Assembly, shall be filled by the Governor during the recess of the General Assembly, by granting commissions which shall expire at the end of the next session.

16. Every bill which shall have passed both houses of the General Assembly, shall be presented to the Governor; if he approve, he shall sign it; but if not, he shall return it, with his objections, to the house in which it shall have originated, who shall enter the objections at large upon the journals, and proceed to reconsider it; if, after such reconsideration, a majority of the whole number elected to that house shall agree to pass the bill, it shall be sent, with the objections, to the other house, by which it shall likewise be reconsidered; if approved by a majority of the whole number elected to that house, it shall become a law: but in such cases the votes of both houses shall be determined by yeas and nays, and the names of the members voting for or against the bill shall be entered on the journals of each house respectively: if any bill shall not be returned by the Governor within five days, Sundays excepted, after it shall have been presented to him, the same shall be a law in like manner as if he had signed it, unless the General Assembly, by their adjournment, prevent its return, in which case it shall not be a law.

17. Every order, resolution, or vote, to which the concurrence of both houses may be necessary, except on questions of adjournment, shall be presented to the Governor, and before it shall take effect, be approved by him; or being disapproved, shall be re-passed by both houses, according to the rules and limitations prescribed in the case of a bill.

18. In case of the impeachment of the Governor, his removal from office, death, refusal to qualify, resignation, or absence from the State, the President of the Senate shall exercise all the power and authority appertaining to the office of Governor, until the time pointed out by this Constitution for the election of Governor shall arrive, unless the General Assembly shall provide by law for the election of a Governor to fill such vacancy, or until the Governor absent or impeached shall return or be acquitted.

19. If, during the vacancy of the office of Governor, the President of the Senate shall be impeached, removed from office, refuse to qualify, resign, die, or be absent from the State, the Speaker of the House of Representatives shall in like manner administer the government.

20. The President of the Senate and Speaker of the House of Representatives, during the time they respectively administer the government, shall receive the same compensation which the Gov-

ernor would have received, had he been employed in the duties of his office.

21. The Governor shall always reside, during the session of the General Assembly, at the place where their session may be held, and at all other times, wherever, in their opinion, public good may require.

22. No person shall hold the office of Governor, and any other office or commission, civil or military, either in this State, or under any state or the United States, or any other power, at one and the same time.

23. A State Treasurer and a Comptroller of public accounts shall be annually elected, by joint vote of both houses of the General Assembly.

24. A sheriff shall be elected in each county by the qualified electors thereof, who shall hold his office for the term of three years unless sooner removed, and who shall not be eligible to serve either as principal or deputy for the three succeeding years. Should a vacancy occur subsequent to an election, it shall be filled by the Governor, as in other cases, and the person so appointed shall continue in office until the next general election, when such vacancy shall be filled by the qualified electors, and the sheriff then elected shall continue in office for three years.

#### *Militia.*

SEC. 1. The General Assembly shall provide by law for the organizing and disciplining the militia of this State, in such manner as they shall deem expedient, not incompatible with the Constitution and laws of the United States in relation thereto.

2. Any person who conscientiously scruples to bear arms shall not be compelled to do so, but shall pay an equivalent for personal service.

3. The Governor shall have power to call forth the militia to execute the laws of the State, to suppress insurrections, and repel invasions.

4. All officers of the militia shall be elected or appointed in such manner as may be prescribed by law: Provided, that the General Assembly shall not make any such elections or appointments, other than those of adjutants-general, and quarter-masters-general.

5. The Governor shall appoint his aids-de-camp; majors-general, their aids-de-camp, and all other division staff-officers; brigadiers-general shall appoint their aids, and all other brigade staff-officers; and colonels shall appoint their regimental staff-officers.

6. The General Assembly shall fix by law the method of dividing the militia into divisions, brigades, regiments, battalions, and companies: and shall fix the rank of all staff-officers.

#### ARTICLE V.—*Judicial Department.*

SEC. 1. The judicial power of this State shall be vested in one



Supreme Court, circuit courts to be held in each county in the State, and such inferior courts of law and equity, to consist of not more than five members, as the General Assembly may, from time to time, direct, ordain, and establish.

2. The Supreme Court, except in cases otherwise directed by this Constitution, shall have appellate jurisdiction only, which shall be co-extensive with the State, under such restrictions and regulations, not repugnant to this Constitution, as may from time to time be prescribed by law: Provided, that the Supreme Court shall have power to issue writs of injunction, mandamus, quo warranto, habeas corpus, and such other remedial and original writs as may be necessary to give it a general superintendence and control of inferior jurisdictions.

3. Until the General Assembly shall otherwise prescribe, the powers of the Supreme Court shall be vested in, and its duties shall be performed by, the judges of the several circuit courts within this State: and they, or a majority of them, shall hold such sessions of the Supreme Court, and at such times as may be directed by law: Provided, that no judge of the Supreme Court shall be appointed before the commencement of the first session of the General Assembly, which shall be begun and held after the first day of January, in the year one thousand eight hundred and twenty-five.

4. The Supreme Court shall be holden at the seat of government, but may adjourn to a different place, if that shall become dangerous from an enemy or from disease.

5. The State shall be divided into convenient circuits, and each circuit shall contain not less than three, nor more than six counties; and for each circuit there shall be appointed a judge, who shall, after his appointment, reside in the circuit for which he may be appointed.

6. The circuit court shall have original jurisdiction in all matters, civil and criminal, within this State, not otherwise excepted in this Constitution; but in civil cases, only when the matter or sum in controversy exceeds fifty dollars.

7. A circuit court shall be held in each county in the State, at least twice in every year, and the judges of the several circuit courts may hold courts for each other, when they may deem it expedient, and shall do so when directed by law.

8. The General Assembly shall have power to establish a court or courts of chancery, with original and appellate equity jurisdiction; and until the establishment of such court or courts, the said jurisdiction shall be vested in the judges of the circuit courts respectively: Provided, that the judges of the several circuit courts shall have power to issue writs of injunction, returnable into the courts of chancery.

9. The General Assembly shall have power to establish, in each county within this State, a court of probate, for the granting of letters testamentary and of administration, and for orphans' business.

10. A competent number of justices of the peace shall be appointed in and for each county, in such mode, and for such term of office, as the General Assembly may direct. Their jurisdiction in civil cases shall be limited to causes in which the amount in controversy shall not exceed fifty dollars. And in all cases, tried by a justice of the peace, right of appeal shall be secured, under such rules and regulations as may be prescribed by law.

11. Judges of the Supreme and circuit courts, and courts of chancery, shall, at stated times, receive for their services a compensation, which shall be fixed by law, and shall not be diminished during their continuance in office: but they shall receive no fees or perquisites of office, nor hold any other office of profit or trust under this State, the United States, or any other power.

12. Chancellors, judges of the Supreme Court, judges of the circuit courts, and judges of the inferior courts, shall be elected by joint vote of both houses of the General Assembly.

13. The judges of the several courts in this State shall hold their offices during good behavior; and for wilful neglect of duty, or other reasonable cause, which shall not be sufficient ground for impeachment, the Governor shall remove any of them, on the address of two-thirds of each house of the General Assembly; provided however, that the cause or causes for which such removal shall be required, shall be stated at length in such address, and entered on the journals of each house; and provided further, that the cause or causes shall be notified to the judge so intended to be removed, and he shall be admitted to a hearing in his own defense, before any vote for such address shall pass; and in all such cases the vote shall be taken by yeas and nays, and entered on the journals of each house respectively; and provided also, that the judges of the several circuit courts who shall be appointed before the commencement of the first session of the General Assembly which shall be begun and held after the first day of January in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and twenty-five, shall only hold their offices during good behavior, until the end of the said session, at which time their commissions shall expire.

14. No person who shall have arrived at the age of seventy years shall be appointed to, or continue in the office of judge in this State.

15. Clerks of the circuit and inferior courts in this State shall be elected by the qualified electors in each county, for the term of four years, and may be removed from office for such cause, and in such manner as may be prescribed by law; and should a vacancy occur, subsequent to an election, it shall be filled by the judge or judges of the courts in which such vacancy exists; and the person so appointed shall hold his office until the next general election; provided, however, that after the year one thousand eight hundred and twenty-six, the General Assembly may prescribe a different mode of appointment, but shall not make such appointment.

16. The judges of the Supreme Court shall, by virtue of their



offices, be conservators of the peace throughout the State; as also the judges of the circuit courts in their respective districts, and judges of the inferior courts in their respective counties.

17. The style of all processes shall be "the State of Alabama," and all prosecutions shall be carried on in the name, and by the authority of the State of Alabama, and shall conclude "against the peace and dignity of the same."

18. There shall be an Attorney-General for the State, and as many solicitors as the General Assembly may deem necessary, to be elected by a joint vote thereof, who shall hold their offices for the term of four years, and shall receive for their services a compensation, which shall not be diminished during their continuance in office.

### *Impeachments.*

SEC. 1. The House of Representatives shall have the sole power of impeaching.

2. All impeachments shall be tried by the Senate: when sitting for that purpose, the senators shall be on oath or affirmation; and no person shall be convicted without the concurrence of two-thirds of the members present.

3. The Governor and all civil officers shall be liable to impeachment for any misdemeanor in office; but judgment in such cases shall not extend further than to removal from office, and to disqualification to hold any office of honor, trust, or profit, under the State; but the party convicted shall nevertheless be liable and subject to indictment, trial, and punishment, according to law.

## ARTICLE VI. *General Provisions.*

SEC. 1. The members of the General Assembly, and all officers, executive, and judicial, before they enter on the execution of their respective offices, shall take the following oath or affirmation, to wit: "I solemnly swear (or affirm, as the case may be) that I will support the Constitution of the United States, and Constitution of the State of Alabama, so long as I continue a citizen thereof, and that I will faithfully discharge, to the best of my abilities, the duties of —, according to law. *So help me God.*"

2. Treason against the State shall consist only in levying war against it, or in adhering to its enemies, giving them aid and comfort. No person shall be convicted of treason unless on the testimony of two witnesses to the same overt act, or his own confession in open court.

3. The General Assembly shall have power to pass such penal laws to suppress the evil practice of duelling, extending to disqualification from office or the tenure thereof, as they may deem expedient.

4. Every person shall be disqualified from holding any office or place of honor or profit, under the authority of the State, who shall

be convicted of having given or offered any bribe to procure his election or appointment.

5. Laws shall be made to exclude from office, from suffrage, and from serving as jurors, those who shall hereafter be convicted of bribery, perjury, forgery, or other high crimes or misdemeanors. The privilege of free suffrage shall be supported by laws regulating elections, and prohibiting, under adequate penalties, all undue influence thereon, from power, bribery, tumult, or other improper conduct.

6. In all elections by the General Assembly, the members thereof shall vote *viva voce*, and the votes shall be entered on the journals.

7. No money shall be drawn from the treasury, but in consequence of an appropriation made by law; and a regular statement and account of the receipts and expenditures of all public moneys shall be published annually.

8. All lands liable to taxation in this State, shall be taxed in proportion to their value.

9. The General Assembly shall direct, by law, in what manner, and in what courts, suits may be brought against the State.

10. It shall be the duty of the General Assembly to regulate by law, the cases in which deductions shall be made from the salaries of public officers, for neglect of duty in their official capacities, and the amount of such deduction.

11. Absence on business of this State, or of the United States, or on a visit, or necessary private business, shall not cause a forfeiture of a residence once obtained.

12. No member of Congress, nor any person holding any office of profit or trust under the United States, (the office of postmaster excepted,) or either of them, or any foreign power, shall hold or exercise any office of profit under this State.

13. Divorees from the bonds of matrimony shall not be granted but in cases provided for by law, by suit in chancery: and no decree for such divorce shall have effect until the same shall be sanctioned by two-thirds of both houses of the General Assembly.

14. In prosecutions for the publishing of papers investigating the official conduct of officers or men in public capacity, or when the matter published is proper for public information, the truth thereof may be given in evidence: and in all indictments for libels, the jury shall have a right to determine the law and the facts, under the direction of the courts.

15. Returns of all elections for officers who are to be commissioned by the Governor, and for members of the General Assembly, shall be made to the Secretary of State.

16. No new county shall be established by the General Assembly, which shall reduce the county or counties, or either of them, from which it shall be taken, to a less content than nine hundred square miles; nor shall any county be laid off of less contents. Every new county, as to the right of suffrage and representation, shall be con-



sidered as a part of the county or counties from which it was taken, until entitled by numbers to the right of separate representation.

17. The General Assembly shall, at their first session, which may be holden in the year eighteen hundred and twenty-eight, or at the next succeeding session, arrange and designate boundaries for the several counties within the limits of this State, to which the Indian title shall have been extinguished, in such manner as they may deem expedient, which boundaries shall not be afterwards altered, unless by the agreement of two-thirds of both branches of the General Assembly; and in all cases of ceded territory acquired by the State, the General Assembly may make such arrangements and designations of the boundaries of counties within such ceded territory as they may deem expedient, which shall only be altered in like manner; provided, that no county hereafter to be formed shall be of less extent than nine hundred square miles.

18. It shall be the duty of the General Assembly to pass such laws as may be necessary and proper to decide differences by arbitrators, to be appointed by the parties, who may choose that summary mode of adjustment.

19. It shall be the duty of the General Assembly, as soon as circumstances will permit, to form a penal code, founded on principles of reformation, and not of vindictive justice.

20. Within five years after the adoption of this Constitution, the body of our laws, civil and criminal, shall be revised, digested, and arranged under proper heads, and promulgated in such manner as the General Assembly may direct: and a like revision, digest, and promulgation shall be made within every subsequent period of ten years.

21. The General Assembly shall make provision by law for obtaining correct knowledge of the several objects proper for improvement in relation to the navigable waters, and to the roads in this State, and for making a systematic and economical application of the means appropriated to those objects.

22. In the event of the annexation of any foreign territory to this State, by a cession from the United States, laws may be passed, extending to the inhabitants of such territory all the rights and privileges which may be required by the terms of such cession; anything in this Constitution to the contrary notwithstanding.

#### *Education.*

Schools, and the means of education, shall for ever be encouraged in this State; and the General Assembly shall take measures to preserve from unnecessary waste or damage such lands as are, or hereafter may be, granted by the United States for the use of schools within each township in this State, and apply the funds, which may be raised from such lands, in strict conformity to the object of such grant. The General Assembly shall take like measures for the improvement of such lands as have been or may be hereafter granted

by the United States to this State, for the support of a seminary of learning, and the moneys, which may be raised from such lands, by rent, lease, or sale, or from any other quarter, for the purpose aforesaid, shall be and remain a fund for the exclusive support of a State University, for the promotion of the arts, literature, and the sciences; and it shall be the duty of the General Assembly, as early as may be, to provide effectual means for the improvement and permanent security of the funds and endowments of such institution.

*Establishment of Banks.*

One State bank may be established, with such number of branches as the General Assembly may, from time to time, deem expedient: Provided, that no branch bank shall be established, nor bank charter renewed, under the authority of this State, without the concurrence of two-thirds of both houses of the General Assembly; and provided, also, that not more than one bank nor branch bank shall be established, nor bank charter renewed, at any one session of the General Assembly; nor shall any bank or branch bank be established, or bank charter renewed, but in conformity with the following rules:

1st. At least two-fifths of the capital stock shall be reserved for the State.

2d. A proportion of power in the direction of the bank shall be reserved to the State, equal at least to its proportion of stock therein.

3d. The State, and the individual stockholders, shall be liable respectively, for the debts of the bank, in proportion to their stock holden therein.

4th. The remedy for collecting debts shall be reciprocal, for and against the bank.

5th. No bank shall commence operations until half of the capital stock subscribed for be actually paid in gold or silver, which amount shall, in no case be less than one hundred thousand dollars.

6th. In case any bank or branch bank shall neglect or refuse to pay, on demand, any bill, note, or obligation, issued by the corporation, according to the promise therein expressed, the holder of any such note, bill, or obligation, shall be entitled to receive and recover interest thereon, until the same shall be paid, or specie payments are resumed, by said bank, at the rate of twelve per cent. per annum from the date of such demand, unless the General Assembly shall sanction such suspension of specie payments; and the General Assembly shall have power, after such neglect or refusal, to adopt such measures as they may deem proper, to protect and secure the rights of all concerned: and to declare the charter of such bank forfeited.

7th. After the establishment of a general State bank, the banks of this State now existing may be admitted as branches thereof, upon such terms as the Legislature and the said banks may agree, subject nevertheless to the preceding rules.



*Slaves.*

SEC. 1. The General Assembly shall have no power to pass laws for the emancipation of slaves without the consent of their owners, or without paying their owners, previous to such emancipation, a full equivalent in money for the slaves so emancipated. They shall have no power to prevent emigrants to this State from bringing with them such persons as are deemed slaves by the laws of any one of the United States, so long as any person of the same age or description shall be continued in slavery by the laws of this State: provided, that such person or slave be the *bona fide* property of such emigrants: and provided, also, that laws may be passed to prohibit the introduction into this State of slaves who have committed high crimes in other states or territories. They shall have power to pass laws to permit the owners of slaves to emancipate them, saving the rights of creditors, and preventing them from becoming a public charge. They shall have full power to prevent slaves from being brought into this State as merchandise, and also to oblige the owners of slaves to treat them with humanity, to provide for them necessary food and clothing, to abstain from all injuries to them extending to life or limb; and in case of their neglect or refusal to comply with the directions of such laws, to have such slave or slaves sold for the benefit of the owner or owners.

2. In the prosecution of slaves for crimes of higher grade than petit larceny, the General Assembly shall have no power to deprive them of an impartial trial by a petit jury.

3. Any person who shall maliciously dismember or deprive a slave of life, shall suffer such punishment as would be inflicted in case the like offence had been committed on a free white person, and on the like proof, except in case of insurrection of such slave.

*Mode of Amending and Revising the Constitution.*

The General Assembly, whenever two-thirds of each house shall deem it necessary, may propose amendments to this Constitution; which proposed amendments shall be duly published in print, at least three months before the next general election of representatives, for the consideration of the people; and it shall be the duty of the several returning officers, at the next general election which shall be held for representatives, to open a poll for, and make a return to the Secretary of the State for the time being, of the names of all those voting for representatives, who have voted on such proposed amendments; and if thereupon it shall appear that a majority of all the citizens of this State voting for representatives, have voted in favor of such proposed amendments, and two-thirds of each house of the next General Assembly shall, after such an election, and before another, ratify the same amendments by yeas and nays, they shall be valid, to all intents and purposes, as parts of this Constitution: provided, that the said proposed amendments shall, at each of the said sessions, have been read three times, on three several days in each house.

## MISSISSIPPI.



IN 1716 the French formed a settlement at Natchez, and claimed the territory as belonging to Louisiana. This colony was massacred by the Indians in 1729. In 1763 it was ceded to the British, and north of the 31st degree of north latitude, was in the chartered limits of Georgia; south of that belonged to West Florida. This part was ceded to the United States by Spain, in 1798. In 1800 this State, with Alabama, was constituted a territory. In 1817 Mississippi was separated from Alabama, and became an independent State. It adopted its first Constitution in 1817, which was revised in 1832.

Area, 45,760 sq. miles. Pop. in 1850, 592,853, of whom 300,419 were slaves Free negroes, 898.

## CONSTITUTION.

### ARTICLE I.—*Declaration of Rights.*

That the general, great and essential principles of liberty and free government may be recognized and established, we declare:—

SEC. 1. That all freemen, when they form a social compact, are equal in rights; and that no man, or set of men, are entitled to exclusive, separate public emoluments or privileges from the community, but in consideration of public services.



2. That all political power is inherent in the people, and all free governments are founded on their authority and established for their benefit; and, therefore, they have at all times an inalienable and indefeasible right to alter or abolish their form of government, in such manner as they may think expedient.

3. The exercise and enjoyment of religious profession and worship, without discrimination, shall forever be free to all persons in this State: Provided, that the right hereby declared and established shall not be so construed as to excuse acts of licentiousness, or justify practices inconsistent with the peace and safety of the State.

4. No preference shall ever be given by law to any religious sect, or mode of worship.

5. That no person shall be molested for his opinions on any subject whatever, nor suffer any civil or political incapacity, or acquire any civil or political advantage, in consequence of such opinions, except in cases provided for in this Constitution.

6. Every citizen may freely speak, write and publish his sentiments on all subjects; being responsible for the abuse of that liberty.

7. No law shall ever be passed to curtail or restrain the liberty of speech, or of the press.

8. In all prosecutions or indictments for libel, the truth may be given in evidence; and if it shall appear to the jury that the matter charged as libellous is true, and was published with good motives and for justifiable ends, the party shall be acquitted; and the jury shall have the right to determine the law and the facts.

9. That the people shall be secure in their persons, houses, papers, and possessions from unreasonable seizures and searches; and that no warrant to search any place, or to seize any person or thing, shall issue without describing the place to be searched, and the person or thing to be seized, as nearly as may be, nor without probable cause, supported by oath or affirmation.

10. That in all criminal prosecutions, the accused hath a right to be heard, by himself or counsel, or both; to demand the nature and cause of the accusation; to be confronted by the witnesses against him; to have compulsory process for obtaining witnesses in his favor; and in all prosecutions by indictment or information a speedy and public trial by an impartial jury of the county where the offence was committed; that he cannot be compelled to give evidence against himself, nor can he be deprived of his life, liberty or property, but by due course of law.

11. No person shall be accused, arrested or detained, except in cases ascertained by law, and according to the form which the same has prescribed; and no person shall be punished but in virtue of a law established and promulgated prior to the offence, and legally applied.

12. That no person shall, for any indictable offence, be proceeded against criminally by information: except in cases arising in

the land or naval forces, or in the militia when in actual service, or by leave of the court, for misdemeanor in office.

13. No person shall, for the same offence, be twice put in jeopardy of life or limb; nor shall any person's property be taken or applied to public use without the consent of the Legislature, and without just compensation being first made therefor.

14. That all courts shall be open, and every person for an injury done him in his lands, goods, person, or reputation, shall have remedy by due course of law, and right and justice administered without sale, denial or delay.

15. That no power of suspending laws shall be exercised, except by the Legislature, or its authority.

16. That excessive bail shall not be required, nor excessive fines imposed, nor cruel punishments inflicted.

17. That all prisoners shall before conviction be bailable by sufficient securities, except for capital offences, where the proof is evident, or the presumption great; and the privilege of the writ of *habeas corpus* shall not be suspended, unless, when in case of rebellion or invasion, the public safety may require it.

18. That the person of a debtor, when there is not strong presumption of fraud, shall not be detained in prison, after delivering up his estate for the benefit of his creditors, in such manner as shall be prescribed by law.

19. No conviction for any offence shall work corruption of blood or forfeiture of estate: The Legislature shall pass no bill of attainder, *ex post facto* law, nor law impairing the obligation of contracts.

20. No property qualification for eligibility to office, or for the right of suffrage, shall ever be required by law in this State.

21. That the estates of suicides shall descend or vest as in cases of natural death: and if any person shall be killed by casualty, there shall be no forfeiture by reason thereof.

22. That the citizens have a right in a peaceable manner, to assemble together for their common good, and to apply to those vested with the powers of government for redress of grievances, or other proper purposes, by petition, address or remonstrance.

23. Every citizen has a right to bear arms in defense of himself and of the State.

24. No standing army shall be kept up without the consent of the Legislature; and the military shall in all cases, and at all times, be in strict subordination to the civil power.

25. That no soldier shall, in time of peace, be quartered in any house, without the consent of the owner, or in time of war, but in manner to be prescribed by law.

26. That no hereditary emoluments, privileges or honors shall ever be granted or conferred in this State.

27. Emigration from this State shall not be prohibited, nor shall any free white citizen of this State ever be exiled under any pretence whatever.



28. The right of trial by jury shall remain inviolate.

29. No person shall be debarred from prosecuting or defending any civil cause for or against him or herself before any tribunal in this State, by him or herself, or counsel or both.

30. No person shall ever be appointed or elected to any office in this State for life or during good behavior; but the tenure of all offices shall be for some limited period of time, if the person appointed or elected thereto shall so long behave well.

### *Conclusion.*

To guard against transgressions of the high powers herein delegated, we declare, that everything in this article is excepted out of the general powers of government, and shall forever remain inviolate; and that all laws contrary thereto or to the following provisions, shall be void.

## ARTICLE II.—*Distribution of Powers.*

SEC. 1. The powers of the government of the State of Mississippi, shall be divided into three distinct departments, and each of them confided to a separate body of magistracy; to wit: those which are legislative to one, those which are judicial to another, and those which are executive to another.

2. No person, or collection of persons, being of one of these departments, shall exercise any power properly belonging to either of the others, except in the instances hereinafter expressly directed or permitted.

## ARTICLE III.—*Legislative Department.*

SEC. 1. Every free white male person of the age of twenty-one years or upwards, who shall be a citizen of the United States, and shall have resided in this State one year next preceding an election, and the last four months within the county, city or town in which he offers to vote, shall be deemed a qualified elector. And any such qualified elector who may happen to be in any county, city or town other than that of his residence at the time of an election, or who shall have removed to any county, city or town within four months preceding the election, from any county, city or town, in which he would have been a qualified elector had he not so removed, may vote for any State or district officer or member of Congress, for whom he could have voted in the county of his residence, or the county, city or town, from which he may have so removed.

2. Electors shall, in all cases, except in those of treason, felony or breach of the peace, be privileged from arrest, during their attendance on elections, and going to and returning from the same.

3. The first election shall be by ballot, and all future elections, by the people, shall be regulated by law.

4. The legislative power of this State shall be vested in two distinct branches; the one to be styled "the Senate," the other "the

House of Representatives ;” and both together, “the Legislature of the State of Mississippi.” And the style of their laws shall be, “*Be it enacted by the Legislature of the State of Mississippi.*”

5. The members of the House of Representatives shall be chosen by the qualified electors, and shall serve for the term of two years, from the day of the commencement of the general election, and no longer.

6. The representatives shall be chosen every two years, on the first Monday and day following in November.

7. No person shall be a representative unless he be a citizen of the United States, and shall have been an inhabitant of this State two years next preceding his election, and the last year thereof a resident of the county, city or town for which he shall be chosen ; and shall have attained the age of twenty-one years.

8. Elections for representatives for the several counties, shall be held at the places of holding their respective courts, or in the several election districts into which the county may be divided ; *Provided*, That when it shall appear to the Legislature that any city or town hath a number of free white inhabitants equal to the ratio then fixed, such city or town shall have a separate representation, according to the number of free white inhabitants therein, which shall be retained so long as such city or town shall contain a number of free white inhabitants equal to the existing ratio, and thereafter and during the existence of the right of separate representation in such city or town, elections for the county in which such city or town entitled to a separate representation is situated, shall not be held in such city or town. *And provided*, That if the residuum or fraction of any city or town entitled to separate representation shall, when added to the residuum in the county in which it may lie, be equal to the ratio fixed by law for one representative ; then the aforesaid county, city or town, having the largest residuum, shall be entitled to such representation : *And provided also*, That when there are two or more counties adjoining, which have residuums over and above the ratio then fixed by law, if said residuums, when added together, will amount to such ratio, in that case one representative shall be added to that county having the largest residuum.

9. The Legislature shall at their first session, and at periods of not less than every four, nor more than every six years, until the year 1845, and thereafter at periods of not less than every four, nor more than every eight years, cause an enumeration to be made of all the free white inhabitants of this State, and the whole number of representatives shall, at the several periods of making such enumeration, be fixed by the Legislature, and apportioned among the several counties, cities or towns, entitled to separate representation, according to the number of free white inhabitants in each, and shall not be less than thirty-six nor more than one hundred : *Provided, however*, That each county shall always be entitled to at least one representative.



10. The whole number of senators shall, at the several periods of making the enumeration before mentioned, be fixed by the Legislature, and apportioned among the several districts to be established by law, according to the number of free white inhabitants in each, and shall never be less than one-fourth, nor more than one-third of the whole number of representatives.

11. The senators shall be chosen by the qualified electors, for four years, and on their being convened in consequence of the first election, they shall be divided by lot from their respective districts into two classes as nearly equal as can be.—And the seats of the senators of the first class shall be vacated at the expiration of the second year.

12. Such mode of classifying new additional senators shall be observed as will as nearly as possible preserve an equality of numbers in each class.

13. When a senatorial district shall be composed of two or more counties, it shall not be entirely separated by any county belonging to another district; and no county shall be divided in forming a district.

14. No person shall be a senator unless he be a citizen of the United States, and shall have been an inhabitant of this State four years next preceding his election, and the last year thereof a resident of the district for which he shall be chosen, and have attained the age of thirty years.

15. The House of Representatives, when assembled, shall choose a Speaker and its other officers, and the Senate shall choose a President and its officers, and each house shall judge of the qualifications and elections of its own members: but a contested election shall be determined in such manner as shall be directed by law. A majority of each house shall constitute a quorum to do business, but a smaller number may adjourn from day to day, and may compel the attendance of absent members, in such manner and under such penalties as each house may provide.

16. Each house may determine the rules of its own proceedings, punish members for disorderly behavior, and with the consent of two-thirds, expel a member, but not a second time for the same cause. and shall have all other powers necessary for a branch of the Legislature of a free and independent State.

17. Each house shall keep a journal of its proceedings, and publish the same; and the yeas and nays of the members of either house, on any question, shall at the desire of any three members present, be entered on the journal.

18. When vacancies happen in either house, the Governor, or the person exercising the powers of the Governor, shall issue writs of election to fill such vacancies.

19. Senators and representatives shall in all cases, except of treason, felony, or breach of the peace, be privileged from arrest during the session of the Legislature, and in going to and returning from

the same, allowing one day for every twenty miles such member may reside from the place at which the Legislature is convened.

20. Each house may punish by imprisonment, during the session, any person not a member, for disrespectful or disorderly behavior in its presence, or for obstructing any of its proceedings: *Provided*, such imprisonment shall not, at any one time, exceed forty-eight hours.

21. The doors of each house shall be open, except on such occasions of great emergency, as, in the opinion of the house, may require secrecy.

22. Neither house shall, without the consent of the other, adjourn for more than three days, nor to any other place than that in which they may be sitting.

23. Bills may originate in either house, and be amended, altered or rejected by the other, but no bill shall have the force of a law, until on three several days, it be read in each house, and free discussion be allowed thereon, unless four-fifths of the house in which the bill shall be pending, may deem it expedient to dispense with this rule; and every bill having passed both houses, shall be signed by the Speaker and President of their respective houses.

24. All bills for raising revenue shall originate in the House of Representatives, but the Senate may amend or reject them as other bills.

25. Each member of the Legislature shall receive from the public treasury a compensation for his services which may be increased or diminished by law; but no increase of compensation shall take effect during the session at which such increase shall have been made.

26. No senator or representative shall, during the term for which he shall have been elected, nor for one year thereafter, be appointed to any civil office of profit under this State, which shall have been created, or the emoluments of which shall have been increased, during such term, except such offices as may be filled by elections by the people; and no member of either house of the Legislature shall after the commencement of the first session of the Legislature after his election, and during the remainder of the term for which he is elected, be eligible to any office or place, the appointment to which may be made in whole or in part by either branch of the Legislature.

27. No judge of any court of law or equity, Secretary of State, Attorney-General, clerk of any court of record, sheriff or collector, or any person holding a lucrative office under the United States or this State, shall be eligible to the Legislature: *Provided*, That offices in the militia, to which there is attached no annual salary, and the office of justice of the peace shall not be deemed lucrative.

28. No person who hath heretofore been, or hereafter may be, a collector or holder of public moneys, shall have a seat in either house of the Legislature, until such person shall have accounted for, and paid into the treasury, all sums for which he may be accountable



29. The first election for senators and representatives shall be general throughout the State, and shall be held on the first Monday and day following in November, 1833; and thereafter, there shall be biennial elections for senators to fill the places of those whose term of service may have expired.

30. The first and all future sessions of the Legislature shall be held in the town of Jackson, in the county of Hinds, until the year 1850. During the first session thereafter, the Legislature shall have power to designate by law the permanent seat of government: *Provided, however,* That unless such designation be then made by law, the seat of government shall continue permanently at the town of Jackson. The first session shall commence on the third Monday in November, in the year 1833; and in every two years thereafter, at such time as may be prescribed by law.

31. The Governor, Secretary of State, Treasurer, Auditor of public accounts, and Attorney-General, shall reside at the seat of government.

#### ARTICLE IV.—*Judicial Department.*

SEC. 1. The judicial power of this State shall be vested in one High Court of Errors and Appeals, and such other courts of law and equity as are hereafter provided for in this Constitution.

2. The High Court of Errors and Appeals shall consist of three judges, any two of whom shall form a quorum. The Legislature shall divide the State into three districts, and the qualified electors of each district shall elect one of said judges for the term of six years.

3. The office of one of said judges shall be vacated in two years, and of one in four years, and of one in six years, so that at the expiration of every two years, one of said judges shall be elected as aforesaid.

4. The High Court of Errors and Appeals shall have no jurisdiction, but such as properly belongs to a Court of Errors and Appeals.

5. All vacancies that may occur in said court, from death, resignation, or removal, shall be filled by election as aforesaid: *Provided,* however, that if the unexpired term do not exceed one year, the vacancy shall be filled by executive appointment.

6. No person shall be eligible to the office of judge of the High Court of Errors and Appeals, who shall not have attained, at the time of his election, the age of thirty years.

7. The High Court of Errors and Appeals shall be held twice in each year, at such place as the Legislature shall direct, until the year eighteen hundred and thirty-six, and afterwards at the seat of government of the State.

8. The Secretary of State, on receiving all the official returns of the first election, shall proceed, forthwith, in the presence and with the assistance of two justices of the peace, to determine by lot among the three candidates having the highest number of votes, which of

said judges elect shall serve for the term of two years, which shall serve for the term of four years, and which shall serve for the term of six years, and having so determined the same, it shall be the duty of the Governor to issue commissions accordingly.

9. No judge shall sit on the trial of any cause when the parties or either of them shall be connected with him by affinity or consanguinity, or when he may be interested in the same, except by consent of the judge and of the parties; and whenever a quorum of said court are situated as aforesaid, the Governor of the State shall in such case specially commission two or more men of law-knowledge for the determination thereof.

10. The judges of said court shall receive for their services a compensation to be fixed by law, which shall not be diminished during their continuance in office.

11. The judges of the Circuit Court shall be elected by the qualified electors of each judicial district, and hold their offices for the term of four years, and reside in their respective districts.

12. No person shall be eligible to the office of judge of the Circuit Court, who shall not at the time of his election, have attained the age of twenty-six years.

13. The State shall be divided into convenient districts, and each district shall contain not less than three nor more than twelve counties.

14. The Circuit Court shall have original jurisdiction in all matters, civil and criminal, within this State; but in civil cases only when the principal of the sum in controversy exceeds fifty dollars.

15. A Circuit Court shall be held in each county of this State, at least twice in each year; and the judges of said courts, shall interchange circuits with each other, in such manner as may be prescribed by law, and shall receive for their services a compensation to be fixed by law, which shall not be diminished during their continuance in office.

16. A separate Superior Court of Chancery shall be established, with full jurisdiction in all matters of equity; provided, however, the Legislature may give to the Circuit Courts of each county equity jurisdiction in all cases where the value of the thing, or amount in controversy, does not exceed five hundred dollars; also, in all cases of divorce, and for the foreclosure of mortgages. The Chancellor shall be elected by the qualified electors of the whole State, for the term of six years, and shall be at least thirty years old at the time of his election.

17. The style of all process, shall be "The State of Mississippi," and all prosecutions shall be carried on in the name and by the authority of "The State of Mississippi," and shall conclude, "against the peace and dignity of the same."

18. A Court of Probates shall be established in each county of this State, with jurisdiction in all matters testamentary and of administration in orphans' business, and the allotment of dower, increase of



idiocy and lunacy, and of persons *non compos mentis*; the judge of said court shall be elected by the qualified electors of the respective counties, for the term of two years.

19. The clerk of the High Court of Errors and Appeals shall be appointed by said court for the term of four years, and the clerks of the circuit, probate, and other inferior courts, shall be elected by the qualified electors of the respective counties, and shall hold their offices for the term of two years.

20. The qualified electors of each county shall elect five persons for the term of two years, who shall constitute a board of police for each county, a majority of whom may transact business; which body shall have full jurisdiction over roads, highways, ferries, and bridges, and all other matters of county police, and shall order all county elections to fill vacancies that may occur in the offices of their respective counties: the clerk of the Court of Probate shall be the clerk of the board of county police.

21. No person shall be eligible as a member of said board, who shall not have resided one year in the county: but this qualification shall not extend to such new counties as may hereafter be established until one year after their organization; and all vacancies that may occur in said board shall be supplied by election as aforesaid to fill the unexpired term.

22. The judges of all the courts of the State, and also the members of the board of county police, shall in virtue of their offices be conservators of the peace, and shall be by law vested with ample powers in this respect.

23. A competent number of justices of the peace and constables shall be chosen in each county by the qualified electors thereof, by districts, who shall hold their offices for the term of two years. The jurisdiction of justices of the peace shall be limited to causes in which the principal of the amount in controversy shall not exceed fifty dollars. In all causes tried by a justice of the peace, the right of appeal shall be secured under such rules and regulations as shall be prescribed by law.

24. The Legislature may from time to time establish such other inferior courts as may be deemed necessary, and abolish the same whenever they shall deem it expedient.

25. There shall be an Attorney-General elected by the qualified electors of the State; and a competent number of district attorneys shall be elected by the qualified voters of their respective districts, whose compensation and term of service shall be prescribed by law.

26. The Legislature shall provide by law for determining contested elections of judges of the High Court of Errors and Appeals of the circuit and probate courts, and other officers.

27. The judges of the several courts of this State, for wilful neglect of duty or other reasonable cause, shall be removed by the Governor on the address of two-thirds of both houses of the Legislature; the address to be by joint vote of both houses. The cause

or causes for which such removal shall be required, shall be stated at length in such address, and on the journals of each house. The judge so intended to be removed, shall be notified and admitted to a hearing in his own defense before any vote for such address shall pass; the vote on such address shall be taken by yeas and nays, and entered on the journals of each house.

28. Judges of probate, clerks, sheriffs, and other county officers, for wilful neglect of duty, or misdemeanor in office, shall be liable to presentment or indictment by a grand jury, and trial by a petit jury, and upon conviction shall be removed from office.

#### ARTICLE V.—*Executive Department.*

SEC. 1. The chief executive power of this State shall be vested in a Governor; who shall hold his office for two years from the time of his installation.

2. The Governor shall be elected by the qualified electors of the State. The returns of every election for Governor, shall be sealed up and transmitted to the seat of government, directed to the Secretary of State, who shall deliver them to the Speaker of the House of Representatives, at the next ensuing session of the Legislature, during the first week of which session the Speaker shall open and publish them in the presence of both houses of the Legislature. The person having the highest number of votes shall be Governor; but if two or more shall be equal and highest in votes, then one of them shall be chosen Governor by the joint ballot of both houses of the Legislature. Contested elections for Governor shall be determined by both houses of the Legislature, in such manner as shall be prescribed by law.

3. The Governor shall be at least thirty years of age, shall have been a citizen of the United States for twenty years, shall have resided in this State at least five years next preceding the day of his election, and shall not be capable of holding the office more than four years in any term of six years.

4. He shall, at stated times, receive for his services a compensation which shall not be increased or diminished during the term for which he shall be elected.

5. He shall be commander-in-chief of the army and navy in this State, and of the militia, except when they shall be called into the service of the United States.

6. He may require information in writing, from the officers in the executive department, on any subject relating to the duties of their respective offices.

7. He may, in cases of emergency, convene the Legislature at the seat of government, or at a different place, if that shall have become, since their last adjournment, dangerous from an enemy or from disease; and in case of disagreement between the two houses with respect to the time of adjournment, adjourn them to such time as he



shall think proper, not beyond the day of the next stated meeting of the Legislature.

8. He shall from time to time give to the Legislature information of the state of the government, and recommend to their consideration such measures as he may deem necessary and expedient.

9. He shall take care that the laws be faithfully executed.

10. In all criminal and penal cases, except in those of treason and impeachment, he shall have power to grant reprieves and pardons, and remit fines ; and in cases of forfeiture to stay the collection until the end of the next session of the Legislature, and to remit forfeitures by and with the advice and consent of the Senate. In cases of treason he shall have power to grant reprieves by and with the advice and consent of the Senate, but may respite the sentence until the end of the next session of the Legislature.

11. All commissions shall be in the name and by the authority of the State of Mississippi ; be sealed with the great seal, and signed by the Governor, and be attested by the Secretary of State.

12. There shall be a seal of this State, which shall be kept by the Governor, and used by him officially, and shall be called the great seal of the State of Mississippi.

13. All vacancies not provided for in this Constitution shall be filled in such manner as the Legislature may prescribe.

14. The Secretary of State shall be elected by the qualified electors of the State, and shall continue in office during the term of two years. He shall keep a fair register of all the official acts and proceedings of the Governor, and shall, when required, lay the same, and all papers, minutes, and vouchers relative thereto, before the Legislature, and shall perform such other duties as may be required of him by law.

15. Every bill which shall have passed both houses of the Legislature shall be presented to the Governor ; if he approve, he shall sign it, but if not, he shall return it with his objections to the house in which it shall have originated, which shall enter the objections at large upon their journals, and proceed to reconsider it. If after such reconsideration two-thirds of the house shall agree to pass the bill, it shall be sent with the objections to the other house, by which it shall likewise be reconsidered : if approved by two-thirds of that house, it shall become a law. But in such case the votes of both houses shall be determined by yeas and nays, and the names of the members voting for and against the bill shall be entered on the journals of each house respectively. If any bill shall not be returned by the Governor within six days (Sundays excepted) after it shall have been presented to him, the same shall become a law in like manner as if he had signed it, unless the Legislature by their adjournment prevent its return, in which case it shall become a law.

16. Every order, resolution, or vote, to which the concurrence of both houses may be necessary, except resolutions for the purpose of obtaining the joint action of both houses, and on questions of ad-

journal, shall be presented to the Governor, and before it shall take effect be approved by him, or being disapproved, shall be re-passed by both houses according to the rules and limitations prescribed in the case of a bill.

17. Whenever the office of Governor shall become vacant by death, resignation, removal from office, or otherwise, the President of the Senate shall exercise the office of Governor until another Governor shall be duly qualified; and in case of the death, resignation, removal from office, or other disqualification of the President of the Senate so exercising the office of Governor, the Speaker of the House of Representatives shall exercise the office, until the President of the Senate shall have been chosen; and when the office of Governor, President of the Senate, and Speaker of the House shall become vacant, in the recess of the Senate, the person acting as Secretary of State for the time being, shall by proclamation convene the Senate, that a President may be chosen to exercise the office of Governor.

18. When either the President or Speaker of the House of Representatives shall so exercise said office, he shall receive the compensation of Governor only, and his duties as President or Speaker shall be suspended, and the Senate or House of Representatives, as the case may be, shall fill the vacancy until his duties as Governor shall cease.

19. A sheriff, and one or more coroners, a Treasurer, Surveyor, and ranger shall be elected in each county by the qualified electors thereof, who shall hold their office, for two years, unless sooner removed; except that the coroner shall hold his office until his successor be duly qualified.

20. A State Treasurer and auditor of public accounts shall be elected by the qualified electors of the State, who shall hold their offices for the term of two years, unless sooner removed.

#### *Militia.*

SEC. 1. The Legislature shall provide by law for organizing and disciplining the militia of this State, in such manner as they shall deem expedient, not incompatible with the Constitution and laws of the United States in relation thereto.

2. Commissioned officers of the militia (staff-officers and the officers of volunteer companies excepted) shall be elected by the persons liable to perform military duty, and the qualified electors within their respective commands, and shall be commissioned by the Governor.

3. The Governor shall have power to call forth the militia to execute the laws of the State, to suppress insurrection, and repel invasion.

#### ARTICLE VI.—*Impeachments.*

SEC. 1. The House of Representatives shall have the sole power of impeaching.

2. All impeachments shall be tried by the Senate. When sitting for that purpose, the senators shall be on oath or affirmation. No



person shall be convicted without the concurrence of two-thirds of the members present.

3. The Governor, and all civil officers, shall be liable to impeachment for any misdemeanor in office, but judgment in such cases shall not extend further than to removal from office, and disqualification to hold any office of honor, trust, or profit under the State; but the party convicted shall, nevertheless, be liable and subject to indictment, trial, and punishment, according to law, as in other cases.

#### ARTICLE VII.—*General Provisions.*

SEC. 1. Members of the Legislature, and all officers, executive and judicial, before they enter upon the duties of their respective offices, shall take the following oath or affirmation, to wit: "I solemnly swear (or affirm, as the case may be) that I will support the Constitution of the United States, and the Constitution of the State of Mississippi, so long as I continue a citizen thereof, and that I will faithfully discharge to the best of my abilities the duties of the office of —, according to law. *So help me God.*"

2. The Legislature shall pass such laws to prevent the evil practice of duelling as they may deem necessary, and may require all officers, before they enter on the duties of their respective offices, to take the following oath or affirmation: "I do solemnly swear (or affirm, as the case may be) that I have not been engaged in a duel, by sending or accepting a challenge to fight a duel, or by fighting a duel since the first day of January, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and thirty-three, nor will I be so engaged during my continuance in office. *So help me God.*"

3. Treason against the State shall consist only in levying war against it, or in adhering to its enemies, giving them aid and comfort. No person shall be convicted of treason, unless on the testimony of two witnesses to the same overt act, or his own confession in open court.

4. Every person shall be disqualified from holding an office or place of honor or profit under the authority of this State, who shall be convicted of having given or offered any bribe to procure his election. Laws shall be made to exclude from office and from suffrage those who shall thereafter be convicted of bribery, perjury, forgery, or other high crimes or misdemeanors. The privilege of free suffrage shall be supported by laws regulating elections, and prohibiting, under adequate penalties, all undue influence therein from power, bribery, tumult, or other improper conduct.

5. No person who denies the being of a God, or a future state of rewards and punishments, shall hold any office in the civil department of this State.

6. No law of a general nature, unless otherwise provided for, shall be enforced until sixty days after the passage thereof.

7. No money shall be drawn from the treasury but in consequence of an appropriation made by law, nor shall any appropriation of money

for the support of an army be made for a longer term than one year.

8. No money from the treasurer shall be appropriated to objects of internal improvement, unless a bill for that purpose be approved by two-thirds of both branches of the Legislature; and a regular statement and account of the receipts and expenditures of public moneys shall be published annually.

9. No law shall ever be passed to raise a loan of money upon the credit of the State, or to pledge the faith of the State for the payment or redemption of any loan or debt, unless such law be proposed in the Senate or House of Representatives, and be agreed to by a majority of the members of each house, and entered on their journals with the yeas and nays taken thereon, and be referred to the next succeeding Legislature, and published for three months previous to the next regular election, in three newspapers of the State; and unless a majority of each branch of the Legislature, so elected, after such publication, shall agree to, and pass such law; and in such case the yeas and nays shall be taken, and entered on the journals of each house: Provided, that nothing in this section shall be so construed as to prevent the Legislature from negotiating a further loan of one and a half million of dollars, and vesting the same in stock reserved to the State by the charter of the Planters' Bank of the State of Mississippi.

10. The Legislature shall direct, by law, in what manner and in what courts suits may be brought against the State.

11. Absence on business of this State, or of the United States, or on a visit, or necessary private business, shall not cause a forfeiture of citizenship or residence once obtained.

12. It shall be the duty of the Legislature to regulate, by law, the cases in which deductions shall be made from salaries of public officers for neglect of duty in their official capacity, and the amount of such deduction.

13. No member of Congress nor any person holding any office of profit or trust under the United States, (the office of post-master excepted,) or any other State, of the Union, or under any foreign power, shall hold or exercise any office of trust or profit under this State.

14. Religion, morality, and knowledge, being necessary to good government, the preservation of liberty, and the happiness of mankind, schools, and the means of education, shall forever be encouraged in this State.

15. Divorces from the bonds of matrimony shall not be granted, but in cases provided for by law, by suit in chancery.

16. Returns of all elections by the people shall be made to the Secretary of State in such manner as may be prescribed by law.

17. No new county shall be established by the Legislature, which shall reduce the county or counties, or either of them, from which it may be taken, to less contents than five hundred and seventy-six square miles; nor shall any new county be laid off of less contents.

18. The Legislature shall have power to admit to all the rights and



privileges of free white citizens of this State, all such persons of the Choctaw and Chickasaw tribes of Indians, as shall choose to remain in this State, upon such terms as the Legislature may from time to time deem proper.

*Slaves.*

SEC. 1. The Legislature shall have no power to pass laws for the emancipation of slaves without the consent of their owners, unless where the slave shall have rendered to the State some distinguished service; in which case the owner shall be paid a full equivalent for the slave so emancipated. They shall have no power to prevent emigrants to this State from bringing with them such persons as are deemed slaves by the laws of any one of the United States, so long as any person of the same age or description shall be continued in slavery by the laws of this State; Provided, that such person or slave be the *bona fide* property of such emigrants; and provided also, that laws may be passed to prohibit the introduction into this State of slaves who may have committed high crimes in other States. They shall have power to pass laws to permit the owners of slaves to emancipate them, saving the rights of creditors, and preventing them from becoming a public charge. They shall have full power to oblige the owners of slaves to treat them with humanity; to provide for them necessary clothing and provisions; to abstain from all injuries to them, extending to life or limb; and in case of their neglect or refusal to comply with the directions of such laws, to have such slave or slaves sold for the benefit of the owner or owners.

2. The introduction of slaves into this State as merchandize, or for sale, shall be prohibited from and after the first day of May, eighteen hundred and thirty-three: Provided, that the actual settler or settlers shall not be prohibited from purchasing slaves in any State in this Union, and bringing them into this State for their own individual use, until the year eighteen hundred and forty-five.

3. In the prosecution of slaves for crimes of which the punishment is not capital, no inquest by a grand jury shall be necessary; but the proceedings in such cases shall be regulated by law.

*Mode of revising the Constitution.*

Whenever two-thirds of each branch of the Legislature shall deem any change, alteration, or amendment necessary to this Constitution, such proposed change, alteration, or amendment shall be read and passed by a majority of two-thirds of each house respectively on each day, for three several days. Public notice thereof shall then be given by the Secretary of State, at least six months preceding the next general election, at which the qualified electors shall vote directly for or against such change, alteration, or amendment; and if it shall appear that a majority of the qualified electors voting for members of the Legislature, shall have voted for the proposed change, alteration, or amendment, then it shall be inserted by the next succeeding Legislature, as a part of this Constitution, and not otherwise.

## SCHEDULE.

SEC. 1. All rights vested, and all liabilities incurred, shall remain the same as if this Constitution had not been adopted.

2. All suits at law or in equity, now pending in the several courts of this State, may be transferred to such courts as may have proper jurisdiction thereof.

3. The Governor, and all officers, civil and military, now holding commissions under the authority of this State, shall continue to hold and exercise their respective offices until they shall be superseded pursuant to the provisions of this Constitution, and until their successors be duly qualified.

4. All laws now in force in the State, not repugnant to this Constitution, shall continue to operate until they shall expire by their own limitation, or be altered or repealed by the Legislature.

5. Immediately upon the adoption of this Constitution, the president of this convention shall issue writs of election, directed to the sheriffs of the several counties, requiring them to cause an election to be held on the first Monday and day following in December next, for members of the Legislature, at the respective places of holding elections in said counties; which elections shall be conducted in the manner prescribed by the existing election laws of the State; and the members of the Legislature, thus elected, shall continue in office until the next general election, and shall convene at the seat of government on the first Monday in January, eighteen hundred and thirty-three; and shall, at their first session, order an election to be held in every county of this State, on the first Monday in May and day following, eighteen hundred and thirty-three, for all State and county officers under this Constitution, (members of the Legislature excepted;) and the other officers then elected shall continue in office until the succeeding general election, and after, in the same manner as if the election had taken place at the time last aforesaid.

6. Until the first enumeration shall be made, as directed by this Constitution, the apportionment of senators and representatives among the several districts and counties in this State, shall remain as at present fixed by law.

P. RUTILUS R. PRAY,

*President of the Convention, and Representative from the County of Hancock.*

Attest: JOHN H. MALLORY, *Secretary.*

## AMENDMENT I.

SEC. 2. The Legislature shall have, and are hereby vested with power to pass such laws regulating or prohibiting the introduction of slaves into this State, as may be deemed proper and expedient.

Inserted by resolution approved February 2, 1846.

## AMENDMENT II.

SEC. 20. The qualified electors of each county shall elect five persons, by districts, for the term of two years, who shall constitute a Board of Police for each county, a majority of whom may transact business: which body shall have full jurisdiction over roads, highways, ferries, and bridges: and all other matters of county policy, and shall order all county elections to fill vacancies that may occur in the offices of their respective counties. The clerk of the court of probate shall be the clerk of the board of county police.

Inserted by Act approved March 12, 1852.

## AMENDMENT III.

SEC. 16. Chancery courts, with full jurisdiction in all matters of equity, shall be held in each judicial district, by the circuit judge thereof, at such time and place as may be directed by law. The superior court of chancery and the several vice-chancery courts, shall continue as now organized, until the first Monday of November, one thousand eight hundred and fifty-seven, for the disposition of causes now depending therein. The Legislature shall provide by law for the preservation of the records of the said superior court of chancery, and of said



vice-chancery courts, and also for the transfer of all causes that may remain undetermined therein, to other courts for final decision.

Inserted by Act approved February 6, 1856.

#### AMENDMENT IV.

Additional article added as follows, to wit:

ARTICLE —. All public officers in this State, legislative, executive, and judicial, whose terms of office expire at the general election to be held in the year one thousand eight hundred and fifty-seven, or at any subsequent general election, shall continue to hold their offices until the first Monday of January next following the expiration of said terms, and until their successors shall be qualified: *Provided*, such of said officers as are required to give bond for the discharge of their duties, shall give bond and security for said extended term, as may be provided by the Legislature: and the terms of office of all officers chosen at the general election in the year eighteen hundred and fifty-seven, or at any subsequent general election, shall commence on the first Monday of January next succeeding the election, and shall continue for the time now fixed by the Constitution, and until their successors shall be qualified.

Proposed by Act approved March 2, 1854.

Inserted by Act approved February 6, 1856.

#### AMENDMENT V.

The following section to be numbered seven, added to the schedule, and made part of the Constitution, to take the place of all conflicting provisions now contained in the Constitution, to wit:

SEC. 7. All general elections by the people of this State shall be held on the first Monday of October; and be concluded in one day. On the first Monday of October, 1857, and biennially thereafter, an election shall be held for representatives in Congress and all State officers and members of the Legislature, except for officers and senators entitled to hold over after November, 1857, who shall continue in office until their successors are entitled to succeed them therein. The Legislature shall convene on the first Monday of November, 1857, and biennially thereafter, but may be specially convoked by the Governor at other times. The Governor's official term shall commence on the third Monday of November, and that of secretary of State, auditor of public accounts, State treasurer, and attorney-general, on the first Monday of January next after his and their election; but the attorney-general shall hold his office as heretofore, for the term of four years. On the first Monday of October, 1858, and biennially thereafter, an election shall be held for all county, district, judicial, and ministerial officers, (except officers who may then be entitled to hold over after January, 1859, or until the time of holding another election,) and the official terms of all such officers then and thereafter elected, shall commence on the first Monday of January next after this election; but all such officers elected in 1855, or previously, whose official terms, in the absence of this provision, would expire in November, 1857, shall continue in office until the first Monday of January, 1859.

Inserted by Act approved February 2, 1856.

#### AMENDMENT VI.

That the following words be, and they are hereby inserted in the Constitution of this State and form a part thereof, to-wit: "That the amendment to the Constitution voted for by a majority of the qualified electors in this State at the last general election, known as the tenure of office amendments, and which was added to the Constitution by an act of the Legislature of this State, approved the 6th day of February, 1856, be abrogated, so far as it fixes the terms of office of members of the Legislature, and in lieu thereof the following section be adopted and inserted in the Constitution; Sec. — The term of office of members of the Legislature shall be for the period now fixed by the Constitution, and shall commence from and after their election, and expire at the next general election thereafter at which their successors are elected.

Approved, Nov. 19th, 1857.

## LOUISIANA.



THIS State was first explored by the French, and named Louisiana in honor of Louis XIV. In 1699, a French settlement was begun at Iberville, by M. Iberville. His efforts were followed up by M. Crozat, a man of wealth, who held the trade of the country for several years. About the year 1717, he transferred all his interest in the province to a chartered company, at the head of which was the celebrated John Law, whose speculations involved the ruin of one-half the French nobility. In 1731, the company resigned all their rights to the crown, by whom the whole of Louisiana was ceded to Spain in 1762. In 1800, Spain re-conveyed it to the French, from whom it was purchased by the United States, in 1803, for \$15,000,000. Louisiana became a State in 1812, and adopted a Constitution. The second Constitution was adopted in 1845. The present one in 1852.

Area, 45,350 sq. miles. Pop. in 1850, 500,763. Slaves, 230,807. Free colored, 15,685. Pop. in 1855, 587,774.

## CONSTITUTION.

### PREAMBLE.

WE, the people of the State of Louisiana do ordain and establish this Constitution:

### TITLE I.—*Distribution of Powers.*

ART. 1. The powers of the government of the State of Louisiana shall be divided into three distinct departments, and each of them be confided to a separate body of magistracy, to wit: those which



are Legislative to one, those which are Executive to another, and those which are Judicial to another.

2. No one of these Departments, nor any person holding office in one of them, shall exercise power properly belonging to either of the others, except in the instances hereinafter expressly directed or permitted.

## TITLE II.—*Legislative Department.*

ART. 3. The Legislative power of the State shall be vested in two distinct branches, the one to be styled the House of Representatives, the other the Senate, and both the General Assembly of the State of Louisiana.

4. The members of the House of Representatives shall continue in service for the term of two years, from the day of the closing of the general elections.

5. Representatives shall be chosen on the first Monday in November, every two years; and the election shall be completed in one day. The General Assembly shall meet annually, on the third Monday in January, unless a different day shall be appointed by law, and their sessions shall be held at the seat of government.

6. Every duly qualified elector, under this Constitution, shall be eligible to a seat in the General Assembly, provided that no person shall be a Representative or Senator, unless he be, at the time of his election, a duly qualified voter of the Representative or Senatorial district from which he is elected.

7. Elections for members of the General Assembly shall be held at the several election precincts established by law. The Legislature may delegate the power of establishing election precincts to the parochial or municipal authorities.

8. Representation in the House of Representatives shall be equal and uniform, and shall be regulated and ascertained by the total population of each of the several parishes of the State. Each parish shall have at least one Representative. No new parish shall be created with a territory less than six hundred and twenty-five square miles, nor with a population less than the full number entitling it to a Representative, nor when the creation of such new parish would leave any other parish without the said extent of territory and amount of population.

The first enumeration by the State authorities under this Constitution, shall be made in the year 1853, the second in the year 1858, the third in the year 1865; after which time the General Assembly shall direct in what manner the census shall be taken, so that it be made at least once in every period of ten years, for the purpose of ascertaining the total population in each parish and election district.

At the first regular session of the Legislature after the making of each enumeration, the Legislature shall apportion the representation among the several parishes and election districts on the basis of the total population as aforesaid. A representative number shall be

fixed, and each parish and election district shall have as many Representatives as its aggregate population shall entitle it to, and an additional Representative for any fraction exceeding one-half the Representative number. The number of Representatives shall not be more than one hundred, nor less than seventy.

Until an apportionment shall be made, and elections held under the same, in accordance with the first enumeration to be made as directed in this article, the Representation in the Senate and House of Representatives shall be and remain as at present established by law.

The limits of the parish of Orleans are hereby extended, so as to embrace the whole of the present city of New Orleans, including that part of the parish of Jefferson, formerly known as the city of Lafayette.

All that part of the parish of Orleans which is situated on the left bank of the Mississippi river, shall be divided by the Legislature into not more than ten Representative Districts, and until a new apportionment shall be made according to the first census to be taken under this Constitution, that part of the city of New Orleans which was comprised within the former limits of the city of Lafayette, shall vote for Senators from the parish of Orleans, and shall form the tenth Representative District, and shall elect two out of the three Representatives now apportioned by law to the parish of Jefferson; the other Representative Districts shall remain as they are now established.

9. The House of Representatives shall choose its Speaker and other officers.

10. Every free white male who has attained the age of twenty-one years, and who has been a resident of the State twelve months next preceding the election, and the last six months thereof in the Parish in which he offers to vote, and who shall be a citizen of the United States, shall have the right of voting, but no voter on removing from one Parish to another within the State, shall lose the right of voting in the former until he shall have acquired it in the latter. Electors shall in all cases, except treason, felony, or breach of the peace, be privileged from arrest, during their attendance at, going to, or returning from elections.

11. The Legislature shall provide by law, that the names and residence of all qualified electors of the city of New Orleans, shall be registered, in order to entitle them to vote; but the registry shall be free of cost to the elector.

12. No soldier, seaman, or marine, in the Army or Navy of the United States, no pauper, no person under interdiction, nor under conviction of any crime punishable with hard labor, shall be entitled to vote at any election in this State.

13. No person shall be entitled to vote at any election held in this State, except in the Parish of his residence, and in cities and towns divided into election precincts, in the election precinct in which he resides.



14. The members of the Senate shall be chosen for the term of four years. The Senate, when assembled, shall have the power to choose its officers.

15. The Legislature, in every year in which they shall apportion representation in the House of Representatives, shall divide the State into Senatorial Districts. No Parish shall be divided in the formation of a Senatorial District—the Parish of Orleans excepted. And whenever a new Parish shall be created, it shall be attached to the Senatorial District from which most of its territory was taken, or to another contiguous District, at the discretion of the Legislature, but shall not be attached to more than one District. The number of Senators shall be thirty-two, and they shall be apportioned among the Senatorial Districts according to the total population contained in the several Districts—Provided, that no Parish shall be entitled to more than five Senators.

16. In all apportionments of the Senate, the population of the city of New Orleans shall be deducted from the population of the whole State, and the remainder of the population divided by the number twenty-seven, and the result produced by this Division shall be the Senatorial ratio entitling a Senatorial District to a Senator. Single or contiguous Parishes shall be formed into Districts, having a population the nearest possible to the number entitling a District to a Senator; and if, in the apportionment to be made, a Parish or District fall short of or exceed the ratio one-fifth, then a District may be formed having not more than two Senators, but not otherwise. No new apportionment shall have the effect of abridging the term of service of any Senator already elected at the time of making the apportionment. After an enumeration has been made as directed in the (eighth) Article, the Legislature shall not pass any law until an apportionment of Representation in both Houses of the General Assembly be made.

17. At the first session of the General Assembly after this Constitution takes effect, the Senators shall be equally divided by lot into two classes. The seats of the Senators of the first class shall be vacated at the expiration of the second year; of the second class, at the expiration of the fourth year; so that one-half shall be chosen every two years, and a rotation thereby kept up perpetually. In case any District shall have elected two or more Senators, said Senators shall vacate their seats respectively at the end of two and four years, and lots shall be drawn between them.

18. The first election for Senators shall be general throughout the State, and at the same time that the general election for Representatives is held; and thereafter there shall be biennial elections to fill the place of those whose time of service may have expired.

19. Not less than a majority of the members of each house of the General Assembly, shall form a quorum to do business; but a smaller number may adjourn from day to day, and shall be authorized by law, to compel the attendance of absent members.

20. Each house of the General Assembly shall judge of the qualification, election and returns of its members; but a contested election shall be determined in such a manner as shall be directed by law.

21. Each house of the General Assembly may determine the rules of its proceedings, punish a member for disorderly behavior, and with the concurrence of two-thirds, expel a member, but not a second time for the same offence.

22. Each house of the General Assembly shall keep and publish weekly a journal of its proceedings; and the yeas and nays of the members on any question shall, at the desire of any two of them, be entered on the journal.

23. Each house may punish by imprisonment any person not a member, for disrespectful and disorderly behavior in its presenee, or for obstructing any of its proceedings. Such imprisonment shall not exceed ten days for any one offence.

24. Neither house, during the session of the General Assembly, shall, without the consent of the other, adjourn for more than three days, nor to any other place than that in which they may be sitting.

25. The members of the General Assembly shall receive from the public treasury, a compensation for their services, which shall be four dollars a day during their attendance, going to and returning from the session of their respective houses. The compensation may be increased or diminished by law; but no alteration shall take effect during the period of service of the members of the House of Representatives by whom such alteration shall have been made. No session shall extend to a period beyond sixty days, to date from its commencement, and any legislative action had after the expiration of the said sixty days, shall be null and void. This provision shall not apply to the first Legislature which is to convene after the adoption of this Constitution.

26. The members of the General Assembly shall, in all cases except treason, felony, breach of the peace, be privileged from arrest during their attendance at the sessions of their respective Houses, and going to or returning from the same, and for any speech or debate in either House, they shall not be questioned in any other place.

27. No Senator or Representative shall, during the term for which he was elected, nor for one year thereafter, be appointed or elected to any civil office of profit under this State, which shall have been created, or the emoluments of which shall have been increased during the time such Senator or Representative was in office, except to such offices or appointments as may be filled by the elections of the people.

28. No person, who at any time may have been a collector of taxes, or who may have been otherwise entrusted with public money, whether State, Parish, or Municipal, shall be eligible to the General Assembly, or to any office of profit or trust under the State



Government, until he shall have obtained a discharge for the amount of such collections, and for all public moneys with which he may have been entrusted.

29. No bill shall have the force of a law until on three several days, it be read over in each House of the General Assembly, and free discussion allowed thereon, unless in case of urgency, four-fifths of the House where the bill shall be pending, may deem it expedient to dispense with this rule.

30. All bills for raising revenue shall originate in the House of Representatives, but the Senate may propose amendments as in other bills; provided they shall not introduce any new matter under color of an amendment, which does not relate to raising revenue.

31. The General Assembly shall regulate by law, by whom, and in what manner writs of election shall be issued to fill the vacancies which may happen in either branch thereof.

32. The Senate shall vote on the confirmation or rejection of officers to be appointed by the Governor, with the advice and consent of the Senate, by yeas and nays, and the names of the Senators voting for and against the appointments respectively, shall be entered on a journal to be kept for that purpose, and made public at the end of each session, or before.

33. Returns of all elections for members of the General Assembly shall be made to the Secretary of State.

34. In the year in which a regular election of a Senator of the United States is to take place, the members of the General Assembly shall meet in the Hall of the House of Representatives, on the Monday following the meeting of the Legislature, and proceed to the said election.

### TITLE III.—*Executive Department.*

ART. 35. The Supreme Executive power of this State shall be vested in a Chief Magistrate, who shall be styled the Governor of the State of Louisiana. He shall hold his office during the term of four years, and, together with the Lieutenant-Governor, chosen for the same term, be elected as follows: The qualified electors for Representatives, shall vote for a Governor and Lieutenant-Governor, at the time and place of voting for Representatives; the returns of every election shall be sealed up and transmitted by the proper returning officer, to the Secretary of State, who shall deliver them to the Speaker of the House of Representatives, on the second day of the session of the General Assembly, then next to be holden. The members of the General Assembly shall meet in the House of Representatives, to examine and count the votes. The person having the greatest number of votes for Governor, shall be declared duly elected, but if two or more persons shall be equal and highest in the number of votes polled for Governor, one of them shall immediately be chosen Governor, by joint vote of the members of the General Assembly. The person having the greatest number of votes for

Lieutenant-Governor shall be Lieutenant-Governor; but if two or more persons shall be equal and highest in the number of votes polled for Lieutenant-Governor, one of them shall be immediately chosen Lieutenant-Governor, by joint vote of the members of the General Assembly.

36. No person shall be eligible to the office of Governor or Lieutenant-Governor, who shall not have attained the age of twenty-eight years, and been a citizen and a resident within the State, for the space of four years next preceding his election.

37. The Governor shall enter on the discharge of his duties on the fourth Monday of January next ensuing his election, and shall continue in office until the Monday next succeeding the day that his successor shall have taken the oath or affirmation prescribed by this Constitution.

38. The Governor shall be ineligible for the succeeding four years after the expiration of the time for which he shall have been elected.

39. No member of Congress, or person holding any office under the United States, shall be eligible to the office of Governor and Lieutenant-Governor.

40. In case of the impeachment of the Governor, his removal from office, death, refusal, or inability to qualify, resignation, or absence from the State, the powers and duties of the office shall devolve upon the Lieutenant-Governor, for the residue of the term, or until the Governor, absent or impeached, shall return or be acquitted. The Legislature may provide by law for the case of removal, impeachment, death, resignation, disability, or refusal to qualify, of both the Governor and Lieutenant-Governor, declaring what officer shall act as Governor; and such officer shall act accordingly, until the disability be removed, or for the residue of the term.

41. The Lieutenant-Governor, or other officer discharging the duties of Governor, shall, during his administration, receive the same compensation to which the Governor would have been entitled, had he continued in office.

42. The Lieutenant-Governor shall, by virtue of his office, be President of the Senate, but shall have only a casting vote therein. Whenever he shall administer the Government, or shall be unable to attend as President of the Senate, the Senators shall elect one of their own members as President of the Senate for the time being.

43. While he acts as President of the Senate, the Lieutenant-Governor shall receive for his services the same compensation which shall, for the same period, be allowed to the Speaker of the House of Representatives and no more.

44. The Governor shall have power to grant reprieves for all offences against the State, and, except in cases of impeachment, shall, with the consent of the Senate, have power to grant pardons, and remit fines and forfeitures, after conviction. In cases of treason he may grant reprieves, until the end of the next session of the General Assembly, in which the power of pardoning shall be vested.



45. The Governor shall, at stated times, receive for his services a compensation, which shall be neither increased nor diminished during the term for which he shall have been elected.

46. He shall be Commander-in-Chief of the Army and Navy of this State, and of the Militia thereof, except when they shall be called into the service of the United States.

47. He shall nominate, and by and with the advice and consent of the Senate, appoint all officers whose offices are established by this Constitution, and whose appointment is not therein otherwise provided for: Provided, however, that the Legislature shall have a right to prescribe the mode of appointment to all other offices established by law.

48. The Governor shall have power to fill vacancies that may happen during the recess of the Senate, by granting commissions which shall expire at the end of the next session, unless otherwise provided for in this Constitution, but no person who has been nominated for office, and rejected by the Senate, shall be appointed to the same office during the recess of the Senate.

49. He may require information in writing from the officers in the Executive Department, upon any subject relating to the duties of their respective offices.

50. He shall, from time to time, give to the General Assembly information respecting the situation of the State, and recommend to their consideration such measures as he may deem expedient.

51. He may, on extraordinary occasions, convene the General Assembly at the seat of Government, or at a different place, if that should have become dangerous from an enemy or from epidemic; and in case of disagreement between the two Houses as to the time of adjournment, he may adjourn them to such time as he may think proper, not exceeding four months.

52. He shall take care that the laws be faithfully executed.

53. Every bill which shall have passed both Houses, shall be presented to the Governor; if he approve he shall sign it, if not, he shall return it with his objections to the House in which it originated, which shall enter the objections at large upon its journal, and proceed to re-consider it; if, after such reconsideration, two-thirds of all the members elected to that House shall agree to pass the bill, it shall be sent, with the objections, to the other House, by which it shall likewise be re-considered, and if approved by two-thirds of all the members elected to that House, it shall be a law; but in such cases the vote of both Houses shall be determined by yeas and nays, and the names of the members voting for and against the bill, shall be entered on the journal of each House respectively. If any bill shall be returned by the Governor, within ten days (Sundays excepted) after it shall have been presented to him, it shall be a law in like manner as if he had signed it, unless the General Assembly, by adjournment, prevent its return; in which case it shall be a law, unless sent back within three days after their next meeting.

54. Every order, resolution, or vote, to which the concurrence of both Houses may be necessary, except on a question of adjournment, shall be presented to the Governor, and before it shall take effect, be approved by him, or being disapproved, shall be re-passed by two-thirds of the members elected to each House of the General Assembly.

55. There shall be a Secretary of State, who shall hold his office during the time for which the Governor shall have been elected. The records of the State shall be kept and preserved in the office of the Secretary; he shall keep a fair register of the official acts and proceedings of the Governor, and when necessary shall attest them. He shall, when required, lay the said register, and all papers, minutes, and vouchers relative to his office, before either House of the General Assembly, and shall perform such other duties as may be enjoined on him by law.

56. There shall be a Treasurer of the State, who shall hold his office during the term of two years.

57. The Secretary of State, and Treasurer of State, shall be elected by the qualified electors of the State. And in case of any vacancies caused by the death, resignation, or absence of the Treasurer, or Secretary of State, the Governor shall order an election to fill said vacancy.

58. All commissions shall be in the name and by the authority of the State of Louisiana, and shall be sealed with the State seal, and signed by the Governor.

59. The free white men of the State shall be armed and disciplined for its defence; but those who belong to religious societies whose tenets forbid them to carry arms, shall not be compelled so to do, but shall pay an equivalent for personal services.

60. The Militia of the State shall be organized in such manner as may be hereafter deemed most expedient by the Legislature.

#### TITLE IV.—*Judicial Department.*

ART. 61. The Judicial power shall be vested in a Supreme Court, in such Inferior Courts as the Legislature may, from time to time, order and establish, and in Justices of the Peace.

62. The Supreme Court, except in cases hereinafter provided, shall have appellate jurisdiction only; which jurisdiction shall extend to all cases when the matter in dispute shall exceed three hundred dollars; to all cases in which the constitutionality or legality of any tax, toll, or impost whatsoever, or of any fine, forfeiture or penalty imposed by a municipal corporation, shall be in contestation; and to all criminal cases on questions of law alone, whenever the offence charged is punishable with death, or imprisonment at hard labor, or when a fine exceeding three hundred dollars is actually imposed. The Legislature shall have power to restrict the jurisdiction of the Supreme Court in civil cases to questions of law only.



63. The Supreme Court shall be composed of one Chief Justice and four Associate Justices, a majority of whom shall constitute a quorum. The Chief Justice shall receive a salary of six thousand dollars, and each of the Associate Judges a salary of five thousand five hundred dollars, annually, until otherwise provided by law. The Court shall appoint its own clerks; the Judges shall be elected for the term of ten years.

64. The Chief Justice shall be elected by the qualified Electors of the State. The Legislature shall divide the State into four districts, and the qualified Electors of each district shall elect one of the Associate Justices. The State shall be divided into the following districts, until the Legislature shall otherwise direct:

*First District.*—The Parishes of Plaquemines, St. Bernard, that portion of the Parish of Orleans, on the right bank of the Mississippi river, and that portion of the City of New Orleans, which lies below the line extending from the River Mississippi, along the middle of Julia street, until it strikes the New Orleans Canal, and thence down said Canal to the Lake.

*Second District.*—That portion of the City of New Orleans which is situated above the line, extending along the middle of Julia street, until it strikes the New Orleans Canal, and thence down said Canal to the Lake, and the Parishes of Jefferson, St. John the Baptist, St. Charles, St. James, Ascension, Assumption, Lafourche Interior, Terrebonne, West Baton Rouge, and Iberville.

*Third District.*—The Parishes of St. Tammany, Washington, Livingston, St. Helena, East Baton Rouge, East Feliciana, West Feliciana, Point Coupe, Avoyelles, Tensas, Concordia, Lafayette, Vermillion, St. Mary, St. Martin, and St. Landry.

*Fourth District.*—The Parishes of Calcasieu, Rapides, Sabine, Natchitoches, De Soto, Caddo, Bossier, Claiborne, Bienville, Caldwell, Union, Ouachita, Morehouse, Jackson, Franklin, Catahoula, Madison, Carroll, and Winn.

65. The office of one of the Associate Justices shall be vacated at the expiration of the second year, of another at the expiration of the fourth year, of a third at the expiration of the sixth year, and of the fourth at the expiration of the eighth year—so that one of the Judges of the Supreme Court shall be elected every second year.

66. The Secretary of State, on receiving the official returns of the first election shall proceed immediately, in the presence and with the assistance of Two Justices of the Peace, to determine by lot among the four candidates having the highest number of votes, in the respective districts, which of the Associate Justices elect shall serve for the term of two years, which shall serve for the term of four years, which for the term of six years, and which for the term of eight years; and the Governor shall issue commissions accordingly.

67. Any vacancy that may occur in the Supreme Court, from resignation or otherwise, shall be filled by election for the remainder

of the unexpired term, but if such remainder do not exceed one year the vacancy shall be filled by Executive appointment.

68. The Supreme Court shall hold its Sessions in New Orleans, from the first Monday of the month of November to the end of the month of June, inclusive. The Legislature shall have power to fix the Sessions elsewhere during the rest of the year: until otherwise provided, the Sessions shall be held as heretofore.

69. The Supreme Court and each of the Judges thereof, shall have power to issue writs of *habeas corpus*, at the instance of all persons in actual custody under process in all cases in which they may have appellate jurisdiction.

70. No judgment shall be rendered by the Supreme Court, without the concurrence of a majority of the Judges comprising the Court. Whenever a majority cannot agree, in consequence of the recusation of any member or members of the Court, the Judges not recused shall have power to call upon any Judge or Judges of the Inferior Courts, whose duty it shall be when so called upon, to sit in the place of the Judges recused, and to aid in determining the case.

71. All Judges, by virtue of their office, shall be conservators of the peace throughout the State. The style of all process shall be "The State of Louisiana." All prosecutions shall be carried on in the name and by the authority of the State of Louisiana, and conclude against the peace and dignity of the same.

72. The Judges of all Courts within this State shall, as often as it may be possible to do, in every definitive judgment, refer to the particular law in virtue of which such judgment may be rendered, and in all cases adduce the reasons on which their judgment is founded.

73. The Judges of all the Courts shall be liable to impeachment; but for any reasonable cause, which shall not be sufficient ground for impeachment, the Governor shall remove any of them, on the address of three-fourths of the members present of each House of the General Assembly. In every such case, the cause or causes for which such removal may be required, shall be stated at length in the address, and inserted in the Journal of each House.

74. There shall be an Attorney-General for the State, and as many District Attorneys as may be hereafter found necessary. They shall hold their offices for four years; their duties shall be determined by law.

75. The Judges both of the Supreme and Inferior Courts shall, at stated times, receive a salary, which shall not be diminished during their continuance in office; and they are prohibited from receiving any fees of office, or other compensation than their salaries for any civil duties performed by them.

76. The Legislature shall have power to vest in Clerks of Courts authority to grant such orders, and do such acts as may be deemed necessary for the furtherance of the administration of justice, and in all cases the powers thus granted shall be specified and determined.

77. The Judges of the several Inferior Courts shall have power



to remove the Clerks thereof, for breach of good behavior, subject in all cases to an appeal to the Supreme Court.

78. The jurisdiction of Justices of the Peace shall be limited in civil cases to cases when the matter in dispute does not exceed one hundred dollars exclusive of interest, subject to an appeal in such cases as shall be provided for by law. They shall be elected by the qualified Electors of each Parish, District, or Ward, for the term of two years, in such manner, and shall have such criminal jurisdiction as shall be provided by law.

79. The Clerks of the District Courts in this State shall be elected by the qualified electors in each Parish, for the term of four years, and should a vacancy occur subsequent to an election, it shall be filled by the Judge of the Court in which such vacancy exists, and the person so appointed shall hold his office until the next general election.

80. A Sheriff and a Coroner shall be elected in each Parish, by the qualified voters thereof, who shall hold their offices for the term of two years, unless sooner removed. The Legislature shall have the power to increase the number of Sheriffs in any Parish. Should a vacancy occur in either of these offices subsequent to an election, it shall be filled by the Governor; and the person so appointed shall continue in office until his successor shall be elected and qualified.

81. The Judges of the several Inferior Courts shall be elected by the duly qualified voters of their respective Districts or Parishes.

82. It shall be the duty of the Legislature to fix the time for holding elections for all Judges at a time which shall be different from that fixed for all other elections.

83. The Attorney-General shall be elected by the qualified voters of the State, and the District Attorneys by the qualified voters of each District, on the day of the election for Governor of the State.

84. The Legislature may determine the mode of filling vacancies in the offices of the Inferior Judges, Attorney-General, District Attorneys, and all other officers not otherwise provided for in this Constitution.

#### TITLE V.—*Impeachment.*

ART. 85. The power of impeachment shall be vested in the House of Representatives.

86. Impeachments of the Governor, Lieut. Governor, Attorney-General, Secretary of the State, State Treasurer, and of the Judges of the Inferior Courts, Justices of the Peace excepted, shall be tried by the Senate; the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court, or the senior Judge thereof shall preside during the trial of such impeachment. Impeachments of the Judges of the Supreme Court shall be tried by the Senate. When sitting as a Court of Impeachment, the Senators shall be upon oath or affirmation, and no person shall

be convicted without the concurrence of two-thirds of the Senators present.

87. Judgments in cases of Impeachment shall extend only to removal from office and disqualification from holding any office of honor, trust or profit under this State, but the parties convicted shall, nevertheless, be subject to indictment, trial and punishment according to law.

88. All officers against whom articles of impeachment may be preferred shall be suspended from the exercise of their functions during the pendency of such impeachment. The appointing power may make a provisional appointment to replace any suspended officer until the decision on the impeachment.

89. The Legislature shall provide by law for the trial, punishment and removal from office, of all other officers of the State, by indictment or otherwise.

#### TITLE VI.—*General Provisions.*

ART. 90. Members of the General Assembly, and all officers, before they enter upon the duties of their office, shall take the following oath or affirmation :

“I (A. B.,) do solemnly swear (or affirm) that I will support the Constitution of the United States and of this State, and that I will faithfully and impartially discharge and perform all the duties incumbent on me as —, according to the best of my abilities and understanding, agreeably to the Constitution and laws of the United States, and of this State; and I do, further, solemnly swear (or affirm) that, since the adoption of the present Constitution, I, being a citizen of this State, have not fought a duel with deadly weapons within this State, nor out of it, with a citizen of this State; nor have I sent or accepted a challenge to fight a duel with deadly weapons with a citizen of this State, nor have I acted as a second in carrying a challenge, or aided, advised, or assisted any person thus offending, so help me God.”

91. Treason against the State shall consist only in levying war against it, or in adhering to its enemies, giving them aid and comfort. No person shall be convicted of treason, unless on the testimony of two witnesses to the same overt act, or his own confession in open court.

92. Every person shall be disqualified from holding any office of trust or profit in this State, who shall have been convicted of having given, or offered, a bribe to procure his election or appointment.

93. Laws shall be made to exclude from office, and from right of suffrage, those who shall hereafter be convicted of bribery, perjury, forgery, or other high crimes or misdemeanors. The privilege of free suffrage shall be supported by laws regulating elections, and prohibiting under adequate penalties all undue influence thereon, from power, bribery, tumult or other improper practice.

94. No money shall be drawn from the treasury but in pursuance



of specific appropriations made by law, nor shall any appropriation of money be made for a longer term than two years. A regular statement and accounts of the receipts and expenditures of all public money shall be published annually, in such manner as shall be prescribed by law.

95. It shall be the duty of the General Assembly to pass such laws as may be necessary and proper to decide difficulties by arbitration.

96. All civil officers for the State at large shall reside within the State, and all District or Parish officers within their Districts or Parishes, and shall keep their offices at such places therein as may be required by law.

97. All civil officers, except the Governor and Judges of the Supreme and Inferior Courts, shall be removable by an address of a majority of the members of both Houses, except those the removal of whom has been otherwise provided for by this Constitution.

98. In all elections by the people the vote shall be by ballot, and in all elections by the Senate and House of Representatives, jointly or separately, the vote shall be given *viva voce*.

99. No member of Congress, nor person holding or exercising any office of trust or profit under the United States, or either of them, or under any foreign power, shall be eligible as a member of the General Assembly, or hold or exercise any office of trust or profit under the State.

100. The laws, public records, and the judicial and legislative written proceedings of the State, shall be promulgated, preserved, and conducted in the language in which the Constitution of the United States is written.

101. The Secretary of the Senate, and Clerk of the House of Representatives, shall be conversant with the French and English language, and members may address either House in the French or English language.

102. No power of suspending the laws of this State shall be exercised, unless by the Legislature or its authority.

103. Prosecutions shall be by indictment, or information. The accused shall have a speedy public trial by an impartial jury of the vicinage; he shall not be compelled to give evidence against himself; he shall have the right of being heard by himself or counsel; he shall have the right of meeting the witnesses face to face, and shall have compulsory process for obtaining witnesses in his favor.

104. All prisoners shall be bailable by sufficient sureties, unless for capital offences, where the proof is evident, or presumption great, or unless after conviction, for any offence or crime punishable with death or imprisonment at hard labor. The privilege of the writ of *habeas corpus* shall not be suspended, unless when in case of rebellion or invasion, the public safety may require it.

105. No *ex post facto* law, nor any law impairing the obligation of contracts, shall be passed; nor vested rights be divested, unless

for purposes of public utility, and for adequate compensation previously made.

106. The press shall be free. Every citizen may freely speak, write, and publish his sentiments on all subjects; being responsible for an abuse of this liberty.

107. The Seat of Government shall be and remain at Baton Rouge, and shall not be removed without the consent of three-fourths of both Houses of the General Assembly.

108. The State shall not subscribe for the stock of, nor make a loan to, nor pledge its faith for the benefit of any corporation or joint stock company, created or established for banking purposes, nor for any other purposes than those described in the following article.

109. The Legislature shall have power to grant aid to companies or associations of individuals, formed for the exclusive purpose of making works of internal improvement, wholly or partially within the State, to the extent only of one-fifth of the capital of such companies, by subscriptions of stock, a loan of money, or public bonds; but any aid thus granted shall be paid to the company only in the same proportion as the remainder of the capital shall be actually paid in by the stockholders of the company; and in case of loan such adequate security shall be required as to the Legislature may seem proper.

No corporation nor individual association receiving the aid of the State, as herein provided, shall possess banking or discounting privileges.

110. No liability shall be contracted by the State, as above mentioned, unless the same be authorized by some law for some single object or work to be distinctly specified therein, which shall be passed by a majority of the members elected to both Houses of the General Assembly; and the aggregate amount of debts and liabilities incurred under this and the preceding article, shall never at any one time, exceed the sum of eight millions of dollars.

111. Whenever the Legislature shall contract a debt, exceeding in amount the sum of one hundred thousand dollars, unless in case of war, to repel invasion, or suppress insurrection, they shall in the law creating the debt provide adequate ways and means for the payment of the current interest, and of the principal, when the same shall become due.

And the said law shall be irrepealable until principal and interest are fully paid and discharged, or unless the repealing law contain some other adequate provision, for the payment of the principal and interest of the debt.

112. The Legislature shall provide, by law, for a change of venue in civil and criminal cases.

113. No lottery shall be authorized by this State, and the buying or selling of lottery tickets within the State, is prohibited.

114. No divorce shall be granted by the Legislature.



115. Every law enacted by the Legislature shall embrace but one object, and that shall be expressed in the title.

116. No law shall be revised or amended by reference to its title; but in such case, the act revised or section amended, shall be re-enacted and published at length.

117. The Legislature shall never adopt any system or code of laws, by general reference to such system or code of laws, but in all cases, shall specify the several provisions of the laws it may enact.

118. Corporations with banking or discounting privileges may be either created by special acts, or formed under general laws; but the Legislature shall, in both cases, provide for the registry of all bills or notes issued, or put in circulation as money, and shall require ample security for the redemption of the same in specie.

119. The Legislature shall have no power to pass any law sanctioning in any manner, directly or indirectly, the suspension of specie payments, by any person, association, or corporation, issuing bank notes of any description.

120. In case of insolvency of any bank or banking association, the bill-holders thereof shall be entitled to preference in payment, over all other creditors of such bank or association.

121. The Legislature shall have power to pass such laws as it may deem expedient, for the relief or revival of the Citizens' Bank of Louisiana, and the acts already passed, for the same purpose, are ratified and confirmed. Provided, that the Bank is subject to the restrictions contained in Articles 119 and 120, of this Constitution.

122. No person shall hold or exercise, at the same time, more than one civil office of emolument, except that of Justice of the Peace.

123. Taxation shall be equal and uniform throughout the State. All property on which taxes may be levied, in this State, shall be taxed in proportion to its value, to be ascertained as directed by law. No one species of property shall be taxed higher than another species of property of equal value, on which taxes shall be levied; the Legislature shall have power to levy an income tax, and to tax all persons pursuing any occupation, trade or profession.

124. The citizens of the city of New Orleans shall have the right of appointing the several public officers, necessary for the administration of the police of the said city, pursuant to the mode of elections which shall be prescribed by the Legislature; provided, that the Mayor and Recorders shall be ineligible to a seat in the General Assembly; and the Mayor, Recorders, and Aldermen and Assistant Aldermen, shall be commissioned by the Governor, as Justices of the Peace, and the Legislature may vest in them such criminal jurisdiction as may be necessary for the punishment of minor crimes and offences, and as the police and good order of said city may require.

125. The Legislature may provide by law, in what case officers shall continue to perform the duties of their offices, until their successors shall have been inducted into office.

126. Any citizen of this State, who shall, after the adoption of this Constitution, fight a duel with deadly weapons with a citizen of this State, or send or accept a challenge to fight a duel with deadly weapons, either within the State or out of it, with a citizen of this State, or who shall act as second, or knowingly aid and assist in any manner, those thus offending, shall be deprived of holding any office of trust or profit, and of enjoying the right of suffrage under this Constitution; and the office of any State officer, member of the General Assembly, or of any other person holding office of profit or trust under this Constitution and the laws made in pursuance thereof, shall be *ipso facto* vacated by the fact of any such person committing the offence mentioned in this article; and the Legislature shall provide by law, for the ascertaining and declaration of such forfeiture.

127. The Legislature shall have power to extend this Constitution, and the jurisdiction of this State, over any territory acquired by compact with any State, or with the United States, the same being done by the consent of the United States.

128. None of the lands granted by Congress to the State of Louisiana, for aiding it in constructing the necessary levees and drains, to reclaim the swamps and overflowed lands in this State, shall be diverted from the purposes for which they were granted.

129. The Constitution and Laws of this State, shall be promulgated in the English and French languages.

#### TITLE VII.—*Internal Improvements.*

ART. 130. There shall be a Board of Public Works, to consist of four Commissioners. The State shall be divided into four Districts, consisting as nearly as may be of an equal number of voters, and one Commissioner shall be elected in each District, for the term of four years; but, of the first elected, two, to be designated by lot, shall remain in office for two years only.

131. The General Assembly, at its first session after the adoption of this Constitution, shall provide for the election and compensation of the Commissioners, and the organization of the Board. The Commissioners first elected shall assemble on a day, to be appointed by law, and decide by lot the order in which their terms of service shall expire.

132. The Commissioners shall exercise a diligent and faithful supervision of all public works, in which the State may be interested, except those made by joint stock companies. They shall communicate to the General Assembly, from time to time, their views concerning the same, and recommend such measures as they may deem necessary, in order to employ to the best advantage, and for the purposes for which they were granted, the swamps and overflowed lands, conveyed by the United States to this State. They shall appoint all officers engaged on the Public Works, and shall perform such other duties as may be prescribed by law.

133. The Commissioners may be removed by the concurrent vote



of a majority of all the members elected to each House of the General Assembly; but the cause of the removal shall be entered on the journal of each House.

134. The General Assembly shall have power, by a vote of three-fifths of the members elected to each House, to abolish said Board, whenever, in their opinion, a Board of Public Works shall no longer be necessary.

#### TITLE VIII.—*Public Education.*

ART. 135. There shall be elected a Superintendent of Public Education, who shall hold his office for the term of two years. His duties shall be prescribed by law, and he shall receive such compensation as the Legislature may direct: Provided, that the General Assembly shall have power by a vote of the majority of the members elected to both Houses, to abolish the said office of Superintendent of Public Education, whenever in their opinion said office shall be no longer necessary.

136. The General Assembly shall establish free Public Schools throughout the State, and shall provide for their support by general taxation on property or otherwise; and all moneys so raised or provided, shall be distributed to each Parish, in proportion to the number of free white children between such ages as shall be fixed by the General Assembly.

137. The proceeds of all lands heretofore granted by the United States to this State, for the use or support of Schools, and of all lands which may hereafter be granted or bequeathed to the State, and not expressly granted or bequeathed for any other purpose, which hereafter may be disposed of by the State, and the proceeds of the estates of deceased persons to which the State may become entitled by law, shall be held by the State as a loan, and shall be and remain a perpetual fund, on which the State shall pay an annual interest of six per cent.; which interest, together with the interest on the trust funds deposited with this State by the United States, under the act of Congress approved June 23, 1836, and all the rents of the unsold lands shall be appropriated to the support of such Schools, and this appropriation shall remain inviolable.

138. All moneys arising from the sales which have been, or may hereafter be made, of any lands heretofore granted by the United States to this State, for the use of a Seminary of Learning, and from any kind of donation that may hereafter be made for that purpose, shall be and remain a perpetual fund, the interest of which, at six per cent. per annum, shall be appropriated to the support of a Seminary of Learning for the promotion of Literature and the Arts and Sciences, and no law shall ever be made diverting said fund to any other use than to the establishment and improvement of said Seminary of Learning.

139. The University of Louisiana, in New Orleans, as now established, shall be maintained.

140. The Legislature shall have power to pass such laws as may be necessary for the further regulation of the University, and for the promotion of Literature and Science, but shall be under no obligation to contribute to the support of said University by appropriations.

TITLE IX.—*Mode of Revising the Constitution.*

ART. 141. Any amendment or amendments to this Constitution, may be proposed in the Senate or House of Representatives, and if the same shall be agreed to by two-thirds of the members elected to each House, such proposed amendment or amendments shall be entered on their journals, with the yeas and nays taken thereon, and the Secretary of State shall cause the same to be published three months before the next general election for Representatives to the State Legislature, in at least, one newspaper, in French and English, in every parish in the State in which a newspaper shall be published; and such proposed amendment or amendments shall be submitted to the people at said election; and if a majority of the voters at said election shall approve and ratify such amendment or amendments, the same shall become a part of the Constitution. If more than one amendment be submitted at a time, they shall be in such manner and form that the people may vote for or against each amendment separately.

TITLE X.—*Schedule.*

ART. 142. The Constitution adopted in Eighteen Hundred and Forty-five, is declared to be superseded by this Constitution; and in order to carry the same into effect, it is hereby declared and ordained as follows:

143. All rights, actions, prosecutions, claims and contracts, as well of individuals as of bodies corporate, and all laws in force at the time of the adoption of this Constitution, and not inconsistent therewith, shall continue as if the same had not been adopted.

144. In order that no inconvenience may result to the public service from the taking effect of this Constitution, no office shall be superseded thereby, but the laws of the State relative to the duties of the several officers, Executive, Judicial, and Military, shall remain in full force, though the same be contrary to this Constitution, and the several duties shall be performed by the respective officers of the State, according to the existing laws, until the organization of the Government under this Constitution, and the entering into office of the new officers, to be appointed under said Government, and no longer.

145. Appointments to offices by the Executive under this Constitution, shall be made by the Governor to be elected under its authority.

146. The Legislature shall provide for the removal of all causes now pending in the Supreme or other Courts of the State, under the



Constitution of 1845, to Courts created by or under this Constitution.

147. The time of service of all officers chosen by the people at the first election under this Constitution, shall terminate as though the election had been holden on the first Monday of November, 1851, and they had entered on the discharge of their duties at the time designated therein. The first class of Senators designated in Article 17, shall hold their seats until the day of the closing of the general elections in November, 1853, and the second class, until the day of the closing of the general elections in November, 1855.

148. The first election for Judges of the Supreme Court, shall be held on the first Monday of April next, (1853,) and they shall enter into office on the first Monday of May, 1853.

149. The first term of the service of the District Attorneys and the Clerks of the Inferior Courts to be ordered and established under this Constitution, shall be regulated by the term of service of the Governor; so that a new election for these officers shall be held on the first Monday of November, 1855.

#### TITLE XI.—*Ordinance.*

ART. 150. Immediately after the adjournment of the Convention, the Governor shall issue his proclamation, directing the officers of this State authorized by law to hold elections for members of the General Assembly, to open and hold a poll in every parish of the State, at the places designated by law, upon the first Tuesday of November next, for the purpose of taking the sense of the good people of this State, in regard to the adoption or rejection of this Constitution; and it shall be the duty of the said officers to receive the votes of all persons entitled to vote, under the old Constitution and under this Constitution. Each voter shall express his opinion by depositing in a separate box to be kept for that purpose, a ticket, whereon shall be written, "The Constitution accepted," or "The Constitution rejected," or some such words as will distinctly convey the intention of the voter. At the conclusion of the said election, which shall be conducted in every respect as the general State election is now conducted, the Commissioners designated to preside over the same shall carefully examine and count each ballot so deposited, and forthwith make due returns thereof to the Secretary of State, in conformity to the provisions of the existing law upon the subject of elections.

151. Upon the receipt of the said returns, or on the fifth Monday of November, if the returns be not sooner received, it shall be the duty of the Governor, the Secretary of State, the Attorney-General, and the State Treasurer, in the presence of all such persons as may choose to attend, to compare the votes given at the said poll, for the ratification and rejection of this Constitution, and if it shall appear from said returns that a majority of all the votes given is for ratifying this Constitution, then it shall be the duty of the Governor to

make proclamation of that fact, and thenceforth this Constitution shall be ordained and established as the Constitution of the State of Louisiana. But whether this Constitution be accepted or rejected, it shall be the duty of the Governor to cause to be published in the official paper of the Convention the result of the polls, showing the number of votes cast in each Parish, for and against the said Constitution.

152. Should this Constitution be accepted by the people, it shall also be the duty of the Governor forthwith to issue his proclamation, declaring the present Legislature, elected under the old Constitution, to be dissolved, and directing the several officers of the State, authorized by law, to hold elections for members of the General Assembly, to hold an election at the places designated by law, upon the fourth Monday of December next, for Governor, Lieutenant-Governor, members of the General Assembly, Secretary of State, Attorney-General, Treasurer, and Superintendent of Public Education. And the said election shall be conducted, and the returns thereof made in conformity with existing laws upon the subject of State elections.

153. The General Assembly elected under this Constitution, shall convene at the State House, in Baton Rouge, upon the third Monday of January next, (1853,) after the elections; and the Governor and Lieutenant-Governor, elected at the same time, shall be duly installed in office during the first week of their session, and before it shall be competent for the said General Assembly to proceed with the transaction of business.

154. All the publications herein ordered shall be made in the official journal of the Convention.

155. This Constitution shall be published in French and English in the official journal of the Convention, from the period of its adjournment until the first Tuesday of November, 1852.



## TENNESSEE.



THIS State was originally included in the charter of North Carolina. The Territory was ceded to the United States in 1790, and a territorial government was formed, called the Territory south-west of the Ohio river. In 1796, it was admitted into the union as a State. Its Constitution, which was then adopted, was revised and amended in 1835.

Area, 45,600 sq. m. Pop. in 1850, 1,002,625 of whom 239,461 were slaves, and 6,271 free blacks.

## CONSTITUTION.

### ARTICLE I.—*Declaration of Rights.*

SEC. 1. That all power is inherent in the people, and all free governments are founded on their authority, and instituted for their peace, safety, and happiness; for the advancement of those ends, they have, at all times, an inalienable and indefeasible right to alter, reform or abolish the government in such manner as they may think proper.

2. That government being instituted for the common benefit, the doctrine of non-resistance against arbitrary power and oppression, is absurd, slavish, and destructive to the good and happiness of mankind.

3. That all men have a natural and indefeasible right to worship Almighty God according to the dictates of their own conscience;

that no man can, of right, be compelled to attend, erect, or support any place of worship, or to maintain any minister against his consent; that no human authority can, in any case whatever, control or interfere with the rights of conscience; and that no preference shall ever be given, by law, to any religious establishment or mode of worship.

4. That no religious test shall ever be required as a qualification to any office or public trust under this State.

5. That elections shall be free and equal.

6. That the right of trial by jury shall remain inviolate.

7. That the people shall be secure in their persons, houses, papers, and possessions, from unreasonable searches and seizures; and that general warrants, whereby an officer may be commanded to search suspected places, without evidence of the fact committed, or to seize any person or persons not named, whose offences are not particularly described and supported by evidence, are dangerous to liberty, and ought not to be granted.

8. That no free man shall be taken or imprisoned, or disseized of his freehold, liberties, or privileges, or outlawed, or exiled, or in any manner destroyed or deprived of his life, liberty, or property, but by the judgment of his peers, or the law of the land.

9. That in all criminal prosecutions, the accused hath a right to be heard by himself and his counsel; to demand the nature and cause of the accusation against him, and to have a copy thereof; to meet the witnesses face to face; to have compulsory process for obtaining witnesses in his favor; and in prosecutions by indictment or presentment, a speedy public trial, by an impartial jury of the county or district in which the crime shall have been committed; and shall not be compelled to give evidence against himself.

10. That no person shall, for the same offence, be twice put in jeopardy of life or limb.

11. That laws made for the punishment of facts committed previous to the existence of such laws, and by them only declared criminal, are contrary to the principles of a free government; wherefore no *ex post facto* law shall be made.

12. That no conviction shall work corruption of blood or forfeiture of estate. The estate of such persons as shall destroy their own lives shall descend or vest as in case of natural death. If any person be killed by casualty, there shall be no forfeiture in consequence thereof.

13. That no person arrested or confined in jail, shall be treated with unnecessary rigor.

14. That no freeman shall be put to answer any criminal charge but by presentment, indictment, or impeachment.

15. That all prisoners shall be bailable by sufficient sureties, unless for capital offences, when the proof is evident or the presumption great. And the privilege of the writ of *habeas corpus* shall not be



suspended, unless when in case of rebellion or invasion the public safety may require it.

16. That excessive bail shall not be required, nor excessive fines imposed, nor cruel and unusual punishments inflicted.

17. That all courts shall be open; and every man, for an injury done him in his lands, goods, person, or reputation, shall have remedy by due course of law, and right and justice administered without sale, denial, or delay. Suits may be brought against the State in such manner, and in such courts, as the Legislature may, by law, direct.

18. That the person of a debtor, where there is not strong presumption of fraud, shall not be continued in prison after delivering up his estate for the benefit of his creditor or creditors, in such manner as shall be prescribed by law.

19. That the printing presses shall be free to every person who undertakes to examine the proceedings of the Legislature, or of any branch or officer of government; and no law shall ever be made to restrain the right thereof. The free communication of thoughts and opinions is one of the invaluable rights of man, and every citizen may freely speak, write, and print on any subject, being responsible for the abuse of that liberty. But in prosecutions for the publication of papers investigating the official conduct of officers or men in public capacity, the truth thereof may be given in evidence; and in all indictments for libels, the jury shall have a right to determine the law and the facts, under the direction of the court, as in other criminal cases.

20. That no retrospective law, or law impairing the obligation of contracts, shall be made.

21. That no man's particular services shall be demanded, or property taken, or applied to public use, without the consent of his representatives, or without just compensation being made therefor.

22. That perpetuities and monopolies are contrary to the genius of a free State, and shall not be allowed.

23. That the citizens have a right, in a peaceable manner, to assemble together, for their common good, to instruct their representatives, and to apply to those invested with the powers of government for redress of grievances or other proper purposes, by address or remonstrance.

24. That the sure and certain defense of a free people is a well regulated militia: and, as standing armies in time of peace are dangerous to freedom, they ought to be avoided, as far as the circumstances and safety of the community will admit; and that in all cases the military shall be kept in strict subordination to the civil authority.

25. That no citizen of this State, except such as are employed in the army of the United States, or militia in actual service, shall be subjected to corporeal punishment under the martial law.

26. That the free white men of this State have a right to keep and to bear arms for their common defense.

27. That no soldier shall, in time of peace, be quartered in any house without the consent of the owner ; nor in time of war, but in a manner prescribed by law.

28. That no citizen of this State shall be compelled to bear arms, provided he will pay an equivalent, to be ascertained by law.

29. That an equal participation of the free navigation of the Mississippi, is one of the inherent rights of the citizens of this State: it cannot, therefore, be conceded to any prince, potentate, power, person or persons whatever.

30. That no hereditary emoluments, privileges, or honors, shall ever be granted or conferred in this State.

31. That the limits and boundaries of this State be ascertained, it is declared they are as hereafter mentioned, that is to say: Beginning on the extreme height of the Stone mountain, at the place where the line of Virginia intersects it, in latitude thirty-six degrees and thirty minutes north ; running thence along the extreme height of the said mountain to the place where Watauga river breaks through it ; thence a direct course to the top of the Yellow mountain, where Bright's road crosses the same ; thence along the ridge of said mountain between the waters of Doe river and the waters of Rock creek, to the place where the road crosses the Iron mountain ; from thence along the extreme height of said mountain, to the place where Nolichucky river runs through the same : thence to the top of the Bald mountain ; thence along the extreme height of said mountain, to the Painted Rock, on French Broad river ; thence along the highest ridge of said mountain, to the place where it is called the Great Iron or Smoky mountain ; thence along the extreme height of said mountain, to the place where it is called Unicoi or Unaka mountain, between the Indian towns of Cowec and Old Chota ; thence along the main ridge of the said mountain, to the southern boundary of this State, as described in the act of cession of North Carolina to the United States of America : and that all the territory, lands, and waters lying west of the said line, as before mentioned, and contained within the chartered limits of the State of North Carolina, are within the boundaries and limits of this State, over which the people have the right of exercising sovereignty and the right of soil, so far as is consistent with the Constitution of the United States, recognizing the articles of confederation, the bill of rights, and Constitution of North Carolina, the cession act of the said State, and the ordinance of Congress for the government of the territory north-west of the Ohio : *provided*, nothing herein contained shall extend to affect the claim or claims of individuals, to any part of the soil which is recognized to them by the aforesaid cession act : *and provided also*, that the limits and jurisdiction of this State shall extend to any other land and territory now acquired, or that may hereafter be acquired by compact or agreement with other States or otherwise, although such land and territory are not included within the boundaries hereinafore mentioned.



32. The people residing south of French Broad and Holston, between the rivers Tennessee and Big Pigeon, are entitled to the right of preemption and occupancy in that tract.

## ARTICLE II.

SEC. 1. The powers of the government shall be divided into three distinct departments; the legislative, executive and judicial.

2. No person or persons belonging to one of these departments shall exercise any of the powers properly belonging to either of the others, except in the cases herein directed or permitted.

3. The legislative authority of this State shall be vested in a General Assembly, which shall consist of a Senate and House of Representatives, both dependent on the people.

4. An enumeration of the qualified voters and an apportionment of the representatives in the General Assembly, shall be made in the year one thousand eight hundred and forty-one, and within every subsequent term of ten years.

5. The number of representatives shall, at the several periods of making the enumeration, be apportioned among the several counties or districts according to the number of qualified voters in each; and shall not exceed seventy-five, until the population of the State shall be one million and a-half; and shall never thereafter exceed ninety-nine; *provided*, that any county having two-thirds of the ratio, shall be entitled to one member.

6. The number of senators shall, at the several periods of making the enumeration, be apportioned among the several counties or districts, according to the number of qualified electors in each, and shall not exceed one-third the number of representatives. In apportioning the senators among the different counties, the fraction that may be lost by any county or counties, in the apportionment of members to the House of Representatives, shall be made up to such county or counties in the Senate as near as may be practicable. When a district is composed of two or more counties, they shall be adjoining; and no county shall be divided in forming a district.

7. The first election for senators and representatives shall be held on the first Thursday in August, one thousand eight hundred and thirty-five; and forever thereafter, elections for members of the General Assembly shall be held once in two years, on the first Thursday in August; said elections shall terminate the same day.

8. The first session of the General Assembly shall commence on the first Monday in October, one thousand eight hundred and thirty-five; and forever thereafter, the General Assembly shall meet on the first Monday in October next ensuing the election.

9. No person shall be a representative, unless he shall be a citizen of the United States of the age of twenty-one years, and shall have been a citizen of this State for three years, and a resident in the county he represents one year immediately preceding the election.

10. No person shall be a senator unless he shall be a citizen of the United States, of the age of thirty years, and shall have resided three years in this State, and one year in the county or district, immediately preceding the election. No senator or representative shall, during the time for which he was elected, be eligible to any office or place of trust, the appointment to which is vested in the executive or the General Assembly, except to the office of trustee of a literary institution.

11. The Senate and House of Representatives, when assembled, shall each choose a speaker and its other officers, be judges of the qualifications and election of its members, and sit upon its own adjournments from day to day. Two-thirds of each house shall constitute a quorum to do business; but a smaller number may adjourn from day to day, and may be authorized by law to compel the attendance of absent members.

12. Each house may determine the rules of its proceedings, punish its members for disorderly behavior, and, with the concurrence of two-thirds, expel a member, but not a second time for the same offence; and shall have all other powers necessary for a branch of the Legislature of a free State.

13. Senators and representatives shall in all cases, except treason, felony, or breach of the peace, be privileged from arrest during the session of the General Assembly, and in going to and returning from the same; and, for any speech or debate in either house, they shall not be questioned in any other place.

14. Each house may punish by imprisonment, during its session, any person not a member, who shall be guilty of disrespect to the house, by any disorderly or contemptuous behavior in its presence.

15. When vacancies happen in either house, the Governor for the time being shall issue writs of election to fill such vacancies.

16. Neither house shall, during its session, adjourn without consent of the other for more than three days, nor to any other place than that in which the two houses shall be sitting.

17. Bills may originate in either house, but may be amended, altered, or rejected by the other.

18. Every bill shall be read once on three different days, and be passed each time in the house where it originated, before transmission to the other. No bill shall become a law, until it shall be read and passed on three different days in each house, and be signed by the respective speakers.

19. After a bill has been rejected, no bill containing the same substance shall be passed into a law during the same session.

20. The style of the laws of this State shall be, "*Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Tennessee.*"

21. Each house shall keep a journal of its proceedings, and publish it, except such parts as the welfare of the State may require to be kept secret; the ayes and noes shall be taken in each house upon the final passage of every bill of a general character, and bills



making appropriations of public moneys ; and the ayes and noes of the members on any question shall, at the request of any two of them, be entered on the journal.

22. The doors of each house and of committees of the whole shall be kept open, unless when the business shall be such as ought to be kept secret.

23. The sum of four dollars per day, and four dollars for every twenty-five miles traveling to and from the seat of government, shall be allowed to the members of the first General Assembly, as a compensation for their services. The compensation of the members of the succeeding legislature shall be ascertained by law ; but no law increasing the compensation of the members shall take effect until the commencement of the next regular session after such law shall have been enacted.

24. No money shall be drawn from the treasury, but in consequence of appropriations made by law : and an accurate statement of the receipts and expenditures of the public money shall be attached to and published with the laws at the rise of each stated session of the General Assembly.

25. No person, who heretofore hath been, or may hereafter be, a collector or holder of public moneys, shall have a seat in either house of the General Assembly, until such person shall have accounted for and paid into the treasury, all sums for which he may be accountable or liable.

26. No judge of any court of law or equity, Secretary of State, Attorney-General, register, clerk of any court of record, or person holding any office under the authority of the United States, shall have a seat in the General Assembly ; nor shall any person in this State hold more than one lucrative office at the same time : *Provided*, that no appointment in the militia, or to the office of justice of the peace, shall be considered a lucrative office, or operate as a disqualification to a seat in either house of the General Assembly.

27. Any member of either house of the General Assembly shall have liberty to dissent from, and protest against, any act or resolve which he may think injurious to the public or to any individual, and to have the reasons for his dissent entered on the journals.

28. All lands liable to taxation, held by deed, grant, or entry, town lots, bank stock, slaves between the ages of twelve and fifty years, and such other property as the Legislature may from time to time deem expedient, shall be taxable. All property shall be taxed according to its value ; that value to be ascertained in such manner as the Legislature shall direct, so that the same shall be equal and uniform throughout the State. No one species of property from which a tax may be collected shall be taxed higher than any other species of property of equal value. But the Legislature shall have power to tax merchants, pedlars, and privileges, in such manner as they may, from time to time, direct. A tax on white polls shall be

laid, in such manner and of such an amount, as may be prescribed by law.

29. The General Assembly shall have power to authorize the several counties and incorporated towns in this State, to impose taxes for county and corporation purposes respectively, in such manner as shall be prescribed by law; and all property shall be taxed according to its value, upon the principles established in regard to State taxation.

30. No article manufactured of the produce of this State shall be taxed otherwise than to pay inspection fees.

31. The General Assembly shall have no power to pass laws for the emancipation of slaves, without the consent of their owner or owners.

### ARTICLE III.

SEC. 1. The supreme executive power of this State shall be vested in a Governor.

2. The Governor shall be chosen by the electors of the members of the General Assembly, at the times and places where they shall respectively vote for the members thereof. The returns of every election for Governor shall be sealed up, and transmitted to the seat of government, by the returning officers, directed to the Speaker of the Senate, who shall open and publish them in the presence of a majority of the members of each house of the General Assembly. The person having the highest number of votes shall be Governor; but if two or more shall be equal, and highest in votes, one of them shall be chosen Governor by joint vote of both houses of the General Assembly. Contested elections for Governor shall be determined by both houses of the General Assembly, in such manner as shall be prescribed by law.

3. He shall be at least thirty years of age, shall be a citizen of the United States, and shall have been a citizen of this State seven years next before his election.

4. The Governor shall hold his office for two years, and until his successor shall be elected and qualified. He shall not be eligible more than six years in any term of eight.

5. He shall be commander-in-chief of the army and navy of this State, and of the militia, except when they shall be called into the service of the United States.

6. He shall have power to grant reprieves and pardons, after conviction, except in cases of impeachment.

7. He shall, at stated times, receive a compensation for his services, which shall not be increased or diminished during the period for which he shall have been elected.

8. He may require information in writing, from the officers in the executive department, upon any subject relating to the duties of their respective offices.

9. He may, on extraordinary occasions, convene the General As-



sembly by proclamation ; and shall state to them, when assembled, the purposes for which they shall have been convened ; but they shall enter on no legislative business, except that for which they were specially called together.

10. He shall take care that the laws be faithfully executed.

11. He shall, from time to time, give to the General Assembly information of the State of the government, and recommend to their consideration such measures as he shall judge expedient.

12. In case of the removal of the Governor from office, or of his death, or resignation, the powers and duties of the office shall devolve on the Speaker of the Senate ; and in case of the death, removal from office, or resignation of the Speaker of the Senate, the powers and duties of the office shall devolve on the Speaker of the House of Representatives.

13. No member of Congress, or person holding any office under the United States, or this State, shall execute the office of Governor.

14. When any officer, the right of whose appointment is by this Constitution vested in the General Assembly, shall, during the recess, die, or the office, by the expiration of the term, or by other means, become vacant, the Governor shall have the power to fill such vacancy, by granting a temporary commission, which shall expire at the end of the next session of the Legislature.

15. There shall be a seal of this State, which shall be kept by the Governor, and used by him officially, and shall be called the *Great Seal of the State of Tennessee*.

16. All grants and commissions shall be in the name and by the authority of the State of Tennessee, be sealed with the State Seal, and signed by the Governor.

17. A Secretary of State shall be appointed by joint vote of the General Assembly, and commissioned during the term of four years ; he shall keep a fair register of all the official acts and proceedings of the Governor ; and shall, when required, lay the same, and all papers, minutes, and vouchers relative thereto, before the General Assembly ; and shall perform such other duties as shall be enjoined by law.

#### ARTICLE IV.

SEC. 1. Every free white man of the age of twenty-one years, being a citizen of the United States, and a citizen of the county wherein he may offer his vote six months next preceding the day of election, shall be entitled to vote for members of the General Assembly, and other civil officers, for the county or district in which he resides : *provided*, that no person shall be disqualified from voting in any election on account of color, who is now, by the laws of this State, a competent witness in a court of justice against a white man. All free men of color shall be exempt from military duty in time of peace, and also from paying a free poll tax.

2. Laws may be passed excluding from the right of suffrage, persons who may be convicted of infamous crimes.

3. Electors shall in all cases, except treason, felony or breach of the peace, be privileged from arrest or summons during their attendance at elections, and in going to and returning from them.

4. In all elections to be made by the General Assembly, the members thereof shall vote *viva voce*; and their votes shall be entered on the journal. All other elections shall be by ballot.

## ARTICLE V.

SEC. 1. The House of Representatives shall have the sole power of impeachment.

2. All impeachments shall be tried by the Senate; when sitting for that purpose, the senators shall be upon oath or affirmation. No person shall be convicted without the concurrence of two-thirds of the senators sworn to try the officer impeached.

3. The House of Representatives shall elect, from their own body, three members, whose duty it shall be to prosecute impeachments. No impeachment shall be tried until the Legislature shall have adjourned *sine die*, when the Senate shall proceed to try such impeachment.

4. The Governor, judges of the Supreme Court, judges of inferior courts, chancellors, attorneys for the State, and Secretary of State, shall be liable to impeachment, whenever they may, in the opinion of the House of Representatives, commit any crime in their official capacity, which may require disqualification; but judgment shall only extend to removal from office, and disqualification to fill any office thereafter. The party shall, nevertheless, be liable to indictment, trial, judgment, and punishment, according to law.

5. Justices of the peace, and other civil officers, not hereinbefore mentioned, for crimes or misdemeanors in office, shall be liable to indictment in such courts as the Legislature may direct; and upon conviction, shall be removed from office, by said court, as if found guilty on impeachment; and shall be subject to such other punishment as may be prescribed by law.

## ARTICLE VI.

SEC. 1. The judicial power of this State shall be vested in one Supreme Court, in such inferior courts as the Legislature shall from time to time ordain and establish, and the judges thereof, and in justices of the peace. The Legislature may also vest such jurisdiction as may be deemed necessary in corporation courts.

2. The Supreme Court shall be composed of three judges, one of whom shall reside in each of the grand divisions of the State: the concurrence of two of said judges shall in every case be necessary to a decision. The jurisdiction of this Court shall be appellate only, under such restrictions and regulations as may from time to time be prescribed by law; but it may possess such other jurisdiction as is



now conferred by law on the present Supreme Court. Said courts shall be held at one place, and at one place only, in each of the three grand divisions in the State.

3. The General Assembly shall, by joint vote of both houses, appoint judges of the several courts of law and equity: but courts may be established to be holden by justices of the peace. Judges of the Supreme Court shall be thirty-five years of age, and shall be elected for the term of twelve years.

4. The judges of such inferior courts as the Legislature may establish, shall be thirty years of age, and shall be elected for the term of eight years.

5. The Legislature shall elect attorneys for the State, by joint vote of both houses of the General Assembly, who shall hold their offices for the term of six years. In all cases where an attorney for any district fails or refuses to attend, and prosecute according to law, the court shall have power to appoint an attorney *pro tempore*.

6. Judges and attorneys for the State, may be removed from office by a concurrent vote of both houses of the General Assembly, each house voting separately; but two-thirds of all the members elected to each house must concur in such vote: the vote shall be determined by ayes and noes, and the names of the members voting for or against the judge or attorney for the State, together with the cause or causes of removal, shall be entered on the journals of each house respectively. The judge or attorney for the State, against whom the Legislature may be about to proceed, shall receive notice thereof, accompanied with a copy of the causes alleged for his removal, at least ten days before the day on which either house of the General Assembly shall act thereupon.

7. The judges of the Supreme and inferior courts, shall, at stated times, receive a compensation for their services, to be ascertained by law, which shall not be increased or diminished, during the time for which they are elected. They shall not be allowed any fees or perquisites of office, nor hold any other office of trust or profit under this State or the United States.

8. The jurisdiction of such inferior courts, as the Legislature may from time to time establish, shall be regulated by law.

9. Judges shall not charge juries with respect to matters of fact, but may state the testimony and declare the law.

10. The judges or justices of such inferior courts of law as the Legislature may establish, shall have power, in all civil cases, to issue writs of *certiorari* to remove any cause or transcript thereof, from any inferior jurisdiction, into said court, on sufficient cause supported by oath or affirmation.

11. No judge of the Supreme or inferior courts, shall preside on the trial of any cause, in the event of which he may be interested, or where either of the parties shall be connected with him by affinity or consanguinity, within such degrees as may be prescribed by law, or in which he may have been of counsel, or in which he may

have presided in any inferior court, except by consent of all the parties. In case all or any of the judges of the Supreme Court shall be thus disqualified from presiding on the trial of any cause or causes, the court, or the judges thereof, shall certify the same to the Governor of the State, and he shall forthwith specially commission the requisite number of men of law-knowledge, for the trial and determination thereof. In case of sickness of any of the judges of the Supreme or inferior courts, so that they or any of them are unable to attend, the Legislature shall be authorized to make provision by the general laws, that special judges may be appointed to attend said courts.

12. All writs and other process shall run in the name of the State of Tennessee; and bear test, and be signed by the respective clerks. Indictments shall conclude, "*against the peace and dignity of the State.*"

13. Judges of the Supreme Court shall appoint their clerks, who shall hold their offices for the period of six years. Chancellors (if courts of chancery shall be established,) shall appoint their clerks and masters, who shall hold their offices for the period of six years. Clerks of such inferior courts as may be hereafter established, which shall be required to be holden in the respective counties of this State, shall be elected by the qualified voters thereof, for the term of four years; they shall be removed from office for malfeasance, incompetency or neglect of duty, in such manner as may be prescribed by law.

14. No fine shall be laid on any citizen of this State, that shall exceed fifty dollars; unless it shall be assessed by a jury of his peers, who shall assess the fine at the time they find the fact, if they think the fine should be more than fifty dollars.

15. The different counties in this State shall be laid off as the General Assembly may direct, into districts of convenient size, so that the whole number in each county shall not be more than twenty-five, or four for every hundred square miles. There shall be two justices of the peace, and one constable elected in each district, by the qualified voters therein, except districts including county towns, which shall elect three justices and two constables. The jurisdiction of said officers shall be co-extensive with the county. Justices of the peace shall be elected for the term of six, and constables for the term of two years. Upon the removal of either of said officers from the district in which he was elected, his office shall become vacant from the time of such removal. Justices of the peace shall be commissioned by the Governor. The Legislature shall have power to provide for the appointment of an additional number of justices of the peace in incorporated towns.

## ARTICLE VII.

SEC. 1. There shall be elected in each county, by the qualified voters therein, one sheriff, one trustee, and one register; the sheriff and trustee for two years, and the register for four years: *provided,*



that no person shall be eligible to the office of sheriff more than six years in any term of eight years. There shall be elected for each county, by the justices of the peace, one coroner and one ranger, who shall hold their offices for two years. Said officers shall be removed for malfeasance, or neglect of duty, in such manner as may be prescribed by law.

2. Should a vacancy occur subsequent to an election in the office of sheriff, trustee, or register, it shall be filled by the justices; if in that of the clerks to be elected by the people, it shall be filled by the courts; and the person so appointed shall continue in office until his successor shall be elected and qualified; and such office shall be filled by the qualified voters at the first election for any of the county officers.

3. There shall be a treasurer or treasurers appointed for the State, by the joint vote of both houses of the General Assembly, who shall hold his or their offices for two years.

4. The election of all officers, and the filling of all vacancies that may happen, by death, resignation, or removal, not otherwise directed or provided for by this Constitution, shall be made in such manner as the Legislature shall direct.

5. The Legislature shall provide, that the election of the county and other officers by the people, shall not take place at the same time that the general elections are held for members of Congress, members of the Legislature, and Governor. The elections shall commence and terminate on the same day.

## ARTICLE VIII.

SEC. 1. All militia officers shall be elected by persons subject to military duty, within the bounds of their several companies, battalions, regiments, brigades and divisions, under such rules and regulations as the Legislature may, from time to time, direct and establish.

2. The Governor shall appoint the adjutant-general and his other staff-officers; the majors-general, brigadiers-general and commanding officers of regiments, shall respectively appoint their staff-officers.

3. The Legislature shall pass laws, exempting citizens belonging to any sect or denomination of religion, the tenets of which are known to be opposed to the bearing of arms, from attending private and general musters.

## ARTICLE IX.

SEC. 1. Whereas, ministers of the gospel are, by their profession, dedicated to God and the care of souls, and ought not to be diverted from the great duties of their functions; therefore no minister of the gospel or priest of any denomination whatever, shall be eligible to a seat in either house of the Legislature.

2. No person who denies the being of a God, or a future state of

rewards and punishments, shall hold any office in the civil department of this State.

3. Any person who shall, after the adoption of this Constitution, fight a duel, or knowingly be the bearer of a challenge to fight a duel, or send or accept a challenge for that purpose, or be an aider or abettor in fighting a duel, shall be deprived of the right to hold any office of honor or profit in this State, and shall be punished otherwise, in such manner as the Legislature may prescribe.

## ARTICLE X.

SEC. 1. Every person who shall be chosen or appointed to any office of trust or profit, under this Constitution, or any law made in pursuance thereof, shall, before entering on the duties thereof, take an oath to support the Constitution of this State, and of the United States, and an oath of office.

2. Each member of the Senate and House of Representatives shall, before they proceed to business, take an oath or affirmation, to support the Constitution of this State, and of the United States, and also the following oath: "I, ———, do solemnly swear, (or affirm,) that, as a member of this General Assembly, I will, in all appointments, vote without favor, affection, partiality, or prejudice; and that I will not propose or assent to any bill, vote or resolution, which shall appear to me injurious to the people, or consent to any act or thing whatever, that shall have a tendency to lessen or abridge their rights and privileges, as declared by the Constitution of this State."

3. Any elector who shall receive any gift or reward for his vote, in meat, drink, money, or otherwise, shall suffer such punishment as the laws shall direct. And any person who shall directly or indirectly give, promise, or bestow any such reward to be elected, shall thereby be rendered incapable, for six years, to serve in the office for which he was elected, and be subject to such further punishment as the Legislature shall direct.

4. New counties may be established by the Legislature, to consist of not less than three hundred and fifty square miles, and which shall contain a population of four hundred and fifty qualified voters. No line of such county shall approach the court-house of any old county from which it may be taken, nearer than twelve miles. No part of a county shall be taken to form a new county or a part thereof, without the consent of a majority of the qualified voters in such part taken off. And in all cases where an old county may be reduced for the purpose of forming a new one, the seat of justice in said old county shall not be removed without the concurrence of two-thirds of both branches of the Legislature, nor shall said old county be reduced to less than six hundred and twenty-five square miles: *provided*, however, that the county of Bedford may be reduced to four hundred and seventy-five square miles; and there



shall not be laid off more than one new county on the west, and one on the east, adjoining the county of the dividing line; a majority of the qualified voters of said county voting in favor of said division: the counties of Carter, Rhea, and Humphreys shall not be divided into more than two counties each; nor shall more than one new county be taken out of the territory now composing the counties of Tipton and Dyer; nor shall the seats of justice in the counties of Rhea, Carter, Tipton, and Dyer be removed, without the concurrence of two-thirds of both branches of the Legislature. The county of Sullivan may be reduced below the contents of six hundred and twenty-five square miles, but the line of any new county which may hereafter be laid off shall not approach the county seat of said county nearer than ten miles. The counties of Marion and Bledsoe shall not be reduced below one thousand qualified voters each, in forming a new county or counties.

5. The citizens who may be included in any new county, shall vote with the county or counties from which they may have been stricken off, for members of Congress, for Governor and for members of the General Assembly, until the next apportionment of members to the General Assembly after the establishment of such new county.

## ARTICLE XI.

SEC. 1. All laws and ordinances now in force and use in this State, not inconsistent with this Constitution, shall continue in force and use until they shall expire, be altered or repealed by the Legislature.

2. Nothing contained in this Constitution shall impair the validity of any debts or contracts, or affect any rights of property, or any suits, actions, rights of action, or other proceedings in courts of justice.

3. Any amendment or amendments to this Constitution may be proposed in the Senate or House of Representatives; and if the same shall be agreed to by a majority of all the members elected to each of the two houses, such proposed amendment or amendments shall be entered on their journals, with the yeas and nays thereon, and referred to the General Assembly then next to be chosen: and shall be published for six months previous to the time of making such choice. And if in the General Assembly next chosen as aforesaid, such proposed amendment or amendments shall be agreed to by two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, then it shall be the duty of the General Assembly to submit such proposed amendment or amendments to the people, in such manner, and at such time, as the General Assembly shall prescribe. And if the people shall approve and ratify such amendment or amendments, by a majority of all the citizens of the State voting for representatives, voting in their favor, such amendment or amendments shall become part of this Constitution. When any amendment or amendments to the

Constitution shall be proposed in pursuance of the foregoing provisions, the same shall at each of the said sessions be read three times on three several days in each house. The Legislature shall not propose amendments to the Constitution oftener than once in six years.

4. The Legislature shall have no power to grant divorces, but may authorize the courts of justice to grant them for such causes as may be specified by law: *provided*, that such laws be general and uniform in their operation throughout the State.

5. The Legislature shall have no power to authorize lotteries for any purpose, and shall pass laws to prohibit the sale of lottery tickets in this State.

6. The Legislature shall fix the rate of interest; and the rate so established shall be equal and uniform throughout the State.

7. The Legislature shall have no power to suspend any general law for the benefit of any particular individual, nor to pass any law for the benefit of individuals inconsistent with the general laws of the land; nor to pass any law granting to any individual or individuals, rights, privileges, immunities, or exemptions, other than such as may be, by the same law, extended to any member of the community, who may be able to bring himself within the provisions of such law: *provided always*, the Legislature shall have power to grant such charters of corporation as they may deem expedient for the public good.

8. The Legislature shall have the right to vest such powers in the courts of justice, with regard to private and local affairs, as may be deemed expedient.

9. A well regulated system of internal improvement is calculated to develop the resources of the State, and promote the happiness and prosperity of her citizens; therefore it ought to be encouraged by the General Assembly.

10. Knowledge, learning, and virtue, being essential to the preservation of republican institutions, and the diffusion of the opportunities and advantages of education throughout the different portions of the State, being highly conducive to the promotion of this end; it shall be the duty of the General Assembly, in all future periods of this government, to cherish literature and science. And the fund called the *common school fund*, and all the lands and proceeds thereof, dividends, stocks, and other property of every description whatever, heretofore by law appropriated by the General Assembly of this State for the use of common schools, and all such as shall hereafter be appropriated, shall remain a *perpetual fund*, the principal of which shall never be diminished by legislative appropriation, and the interest thereof shall be inviolably appropriated to the support and encouragement of common schools throughout the State, and for the equal benefit of all the people thereof; and no law shall be made authorizing said fund, or any part thereof, to be diverted to any other use than the support and encouragement of common



schools : and it shall be the duty of the General Assembly, to appoint a board of commissioners, for such term of time as they may think proper, who shall have the general superintendence of said fund, and who shall make a report of the condition of the same, from time to time, under such rules, regulations, and restrictions as may be required by law ; *provided*, that if at any time hereafter a division of the public lands of the United States, or of the money arising from the sales of such lands shall be made among the individual states, the part of such lands, or money coming to this State, shall be devoted to the purposes of education and internal improvement ; and shall never be applied to any other purpose.

11. The above provisions shall not be construed to prevent the Legislature from carrying into effect any laws that have been passed in favor of the colleges, universities, or academies, or from authorizing heirs or distributees to receive and enjoy escheated property, under such rules and regulations as from time to time may be prescribed by law.

12. The declaration of rights hereto prefixed, is declared to be a part of the Constitution of this State, and shall never be violated on any pretence whatever. And to guard against transgression of the high powers we have delegated, we declare that everything in the bill of rights contained, is excepted out of the general powers of government, and shall forever remain inviolate.

## KENTUCKY.



THIS State was first explored in 1770, by Daniel Boon, a celebrated hunter. The first settlement was near Lexington, in the year 1775. This State originally belonged to Virginia. In 1782 it became a territory by the name of Kentucky. In 1792 it was admitted into the union. The first Constitution was adopted in 1790—the present one in 1799.

Area, 40,500 sq. m. Pop. 1850, 982,405, of which 221,768 were slaves. Free blacks, 9,667.

## CONSTITUTION.

### PREAMBLE.

WE, the representatives of the people of the State of Kentucky, in Convention assembled, to secure to all the citizens thereof the enjoyment of the rights of life, liberty, and property, and of pursuing happiness, do ordain and establish this Constitution for its government.

### ARTICLE I.—*Concerning the Distribution of the Powers of Government.*

SEC. 1. The powers of the Government of the State of Kentucky shall be divided into three distinct departments, and each of them be confided to a separate body of magistracy, to-wit: those which are Legislative to one; those which are Executive to another, and those which are Judiciary to another.



SEC. 2. No person, or collection of persons, being of one of those departments, shall exercise any power properly belonging to either of the others, except in the instances hereinafter expressly directed or permitted.

ARTICLE II.—*Concerning the Legislative Department.*

SEC. 1. The Legislative power shall be vested in a House of Representatives and Senate, which together shall be styled the General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Kentucky.

SEC. 2. The members of the House of Representatives shall continue in service for the term of two years from the day of the general election, and no longer.

SEC. 3. Representatives shall be chosen on the first Monday in August, in every second year; and the mode of holding the elections shall be regulated by law.

SEC. 4. No person shall be a Representative, who, at the time of his election, is not a citizen of the United States, has not attained the age of twenty-four years, and who has not resided in this State two years next preceding his election, and the last year thereof in the county, town, or city, for which he may be chosen.

SEC. 5. The General Assembly shall divide each county of this Commonwealth into convenient election precincts, or may delegate power to do so to such county authorities as may be designated by law; and elections for Representatives for the several counties shall be held at the places of holding their respective courts, and in the several election precincts into which the counties may be divided: *Provided*, that when it shall appear to the General Assembly that any city or town hath a number of qualified voters equal to the ratio then fixed, such city or town shall be invested with the privilege of a separate representation, in either or both houses of the General Assembly, which shall be retained so long as such city or town shall contain a number of qualified voters equal to the ratio which may, from time to time, be fixed by law; and, thereafter, elections for the county in which such city or town is situated, shall not be held therein; but such city or town shall not be entitled to a separate representation, unless such county, after the separation, shall also be entitled to one or more Representatives. That whenever a city or town shall be entitled to a separate representation in either house of the General Assembly, and by its numbers shall be entitled to more than one Representative, such city or town shall be divided, by squares which are contiguous, so as to make the most compact form, into Representative Districts, as nearly equal as may be, equal to the number of Representatives to which such city or town may be entitled; and one Representative shall be elected from each district. In like manner shall said city or town be divided into Senatorial Districts, when, by the apportionment, more than one Senator shall be allotted to such city or town; and a Senator shall be elected from each Senatorial District; but no ward

or municipal division shall be divided by such division of Senatorial or Representative Districts, unless it be necessary to equalize the Elective, Senatorial, or Representative Districts.

SEC. 6. Representation shall be equal and uniform in this Commonwealth, and shall be forever regulated and ascertained by the number of qualified voters therein. In the year 1850, again in the year 1857, and every eighth year thereafter, an enumeration of all the qualified voters of the State shall be made; and to secure uniformity and equality of representation, the State is hereby laid off into ten districts. The first district shall be composed of the counties of Fulton, Hickman, Ballard, McCracken, Graves, Calloway, Marshall, Livingston, Crittenden, Union, Hopkins, Caldwell, and Trigg. The second district shall be composed of the counties of Christian, Muhlenburg, Henderson, Daviess, Hancock, Ohio, Breckinridge, Meade, Grayson, Butler, and Edmonson. The third district shall be composed of the counties of Todd, Logan, Simpson, Warren, Allen, Monroe, Barren, and Hart. The fourth district shall be composed of the counties of Cumberland, Adair, Green, Taylor, Clinton, Russell, Wayne, Pulaski, Casey, Boyle, and Lincoln. The fifth district shall be composed of the counties of Hardin, Larue, Bullitt, Spencer, Nelson, Washington, Marion, Mercer, and Anderson. The sixth district shall be composed of the counties of Garrard, Madison, Estill, Owsley, Rockcastle, Laurel, Clay, Whitley, Knox, Harlan, Perry, Letcher, Pike, Floyd, and Johnson. The seventh district shall be composed of the counties of Jefferson, Oldham, Trimble, Carroll, Henry, and Shelby, and the city of Louisville. The eighth district shall be composed of the counties of Bourbon, Fayette, Scott, Owen, Franklin, Woodford, and Jessamine. The ninth district shall be composed of the counties of Clarke, Bath, Montgomery, Fleming, Lewis, Greenup, Carter, Lawrence, Morgan, and Breathitt. The tenth district shall be composed of the counties of Mason, Bracken, Nicholas, Harrison, Pendleton, Campbell, Grant, Kenton, Boone, and Gallatin. The number of representatives shall, at the several sessions of the General Assembly, next after the making of the enumerations, be apportioned among the ten several districts, according to the number of qualified voters in each; and the Representatives shall be apportioned, as near as may be, among the counties, towns and cities in each district; and in making such apportionment the following rules shall govern, to-wit: Every county, town or city having the ratio shall have one Representative; if double the ratio, two Representatives, and so on. Next, the counties, towns or cities having one or more Representatives, and the largest number of qualified voters above the ratio, and counties having the largest number under the ratio shall have a Representative, regard being always had to the greatest number of qualified voters: *Provided*, that when a county may not have a sufficient number of qualified voters to entitle it to one Representative, then such county may be joined to some adjacent county or counties,



which counties shall send one Representative.. When a new county shall be formed of territory belonging to more than one district, it shall form a part of that district having the least number of qualified voters.

SEC. 7. The House of Representatives shall choose its Speaker and other officers.

SEC. 8. Every free white male citizen, of the age of twenty-one years, who has resided in the State two years, or in the county, town, or city, in which he offers to vote, one year next preceding the election shall be a voter; but such voter shall have been, for sixty days next preceding the election, a resident of the precinct in which he offers to vote, and he shall vote in said precinct, and not elsewhere.

SEC. 9. Voters, in all cases except treason, felony, breach or surety of the peace, shall be privileged from arrest during their attendance at, going to, and returning from elections.

SEC. 10. Senators shall be chosen for the term of four years, and the Senate shall have power to choose its officers biennially.

SEC. 11. Senators and Representatives shall be elected, under the first apportionment after the adoption of this Constitution, in the year 1851.

SEC. 12. At the session of the General Assembly next after the first apportionment under this Constitution, the Senators shall be divided by lot, as equally as may be, into two classes; the seats of the first class shall be vacated at the end of two years from the day of the election, and those of the second class at the end of four years, so that one half shall be chosen every two years.

SEC. 13. The number of Representatives shall be one hundred, and the number of Senators thirty eight.

SEC. 14. At every apportionment of representation, the State shall be laid off into thirty eight Senatorial Districts, which shall be so formed as to contain, as near as may be, an equal number of qualified voters, and so that no county shall be divided in the formation of a Senatorial District, except such county shall be entitled, under the enumeration, to two or more Senators; and where two or more counties compose a district they shall be adjoining.

SEC. 15. One Senator for each district shall be elected by the qualified voters therein, who shall vote in the precincts where they reside, at the places where elections are by law directed to be held.

SEC. 16. No person shall be a Senator who, at the time of his election, is not a citizen of the United States; has not attained the age of thirty years, and who has not resided in this State six years next preceding his election, and the last year thereof in the district for which he may be chosen.

SEC. 17. The election for Senators, next after the first apportionment under this Constitution, shall be general throughout the State, and at the same time that the election for Representatives is held,

and thereafter there shall be a biennial election for Senators to fill the places of those whose term of service may have expired.

SEC. 18. The General Assembly shall convene on the first Monday in November, after the adoption of this Constitution, and again on the first Monday in November, 1851, and on the same day of every second year thereafter, unless a different day be appointed by law, and their sessions shall be held at the seat of Government.

SEC. 19. Not less than a majority of the members of each house of the General Assembly shall constitute a quorum to do business, but a smaller number may adjourn from day to day, and shall be authorized by law to compel the attendance of absent members in such manner and under such penalties as may be prescribed thereby.

SEC. 20. Each house of the General Assembly shall judge of the qualifications, elections, and returns of its members; but a contested election shall be determined in such manner as shall be directed by law.

SEC. 21. Each house of the General Assembly may determine the rules of its proceedings, punish a member for disorderly behavior, and with the concurrence of two thirds expel a member; but not a second time for the same cause.

SEC. 22. Each house of the General Assembly shall keep and publish, weekly, a journal of its proceedings, and the yeas and nays of the members on any question shall, at the desire of any two of them, be entered on their journal.

SEC. 23. Neither house, during the session of the General Assembly, shall, without the consent of the other, adjourn for more than three days, nor to any other place than that in which they may be sitting.

SEC. 24. The members of the General Assembly shall severally receive from the public treasury a compensation for their services, which shall be three dollars a day during their attendance on, and twelve and a half cents per mile for the necessary travel in going to, and returning from, the sessions of their respective houses: *Provided* that the same may be increased or diminished by law; but no alteration shall take effect during the session at which such alteration shall be made; nor shall a session of the General Assembly continue beyond sixty days, except by a vote of two thirds of all the members elected to each house, but this shall not apply to the first session held under this Constitution.

SEC. 25. The members of the General Assembly shall, in all cases except treason, felony, breach or surety of the peace, be privileged from arrest during their attendance at the sessions of their respective houses, and in going to, and returning from, the same; and for any speech or debate in either house, they shall not be questioned in any other place.

SEC. 26. No Senator or Representative shall, during the term for which he was elected, nor for one year thereafter, be appointed or



elected to any civil office of profit under this Commonwealth, which shall have been created, or the emoluments of which shall have been increased, during the said term, except to such offices or appointments as may be filled by the election of the people.

SEC. 27. No person, while he continues to exercise the functions of a clergyman, priest, or teacher of any religious persuasion, society, or sect, nor while he holds or exercises any office of profit under this Commonwealth, or under the government of the United States, shall be eligible to the General Assembly, except attorneys at law, justices of the peace, and militia officers: *Provided*, that attorneys for the Commonwealth, who receive a fixed annual salary, shall be ineligible.

SEC. 28. No person who, at any time, may have been a collector of taxes or public moneys for the State, or the assistant or deputy of such collector, shall be eligible to the General Assembly, unless he shall have obtained a *quietus*, six months before the election, for the amount of such collection, and for all public moneys for which he may have been responsible.

SEC. 29. No bill shall have the force of a law, until, on three several days, it be read over in each house of the General Assembly, and free discussion allowed thereon, unless, in cases of urgency, four fifths of the house, where the bill shall be depending, may deem it expedient to dispense with this rule.

SEC. 30. All bills for raising revenue shall originate in the House of Representatives, but the Senate may propose amendments, as in other bills: *Provided*, that they shall not introduce any new matter, under color of amendment, which does not relate to raising revenue.

SEC. 31. The General Assembly shall regulate, by law, by whom and in what manner writs of election shall be issued to fill the vacancies which may happen in either branch thereof.

SEC. 32. The General Assembly shall have no power to grant divorces, to change the names of individuals, or direct the sales of estates belonging to infants, or other persons laboring under legal disabilities, by special legislation; but by general laws shall confer such powers on the courts of justice.

SEC. 33. The credit of this Commonwealth shall never be given or loaned in aid of any person, association, municipality, or corporation.

SEC. 34. The General Assembly shall have no power to pass laws to diminish the resources of the Sinking Fund, as now established by law, until the debt of the State be paid, but may pass laws to increase them; and the whole resources of said fund, from year to year, shall be sacredly set apart and applied to the payment of the interest and principal of the State debt, and to no other use or purpose, until the whole debt of the State is fully paid and satisfied.

SEC. 35. The General Assembly may contract debts to meet casual deficits or failures in the revenue, but such debts, direct or contingent, singly or in the aggregate, shall not at any time exceed

five hundred thousand dollars; and the moneys arising from loans creating such debts, shall be applied to the purposes for which they were obtained, or to repay such debts: *Provided*, that the State may contract debts to repel invasion, suppress insurrection, or, if hostilities are threatened, provide for the public defence.

SEC. 36. No act of the General Assembly shall authorize any debt to be contracted on behalf of the Commonwealth, except for the purposes mentioned in the thirty-fifth section of this article, unless provision be made therein to lay and collect an annual tax sufficient to pay the interest stipulated, and to discharge the debt within thirty years; nor shall such act take effect until it shall have been submitted to the people at a general election, and shall have received a majority of all the votes cast for and against it: *Provided*, that the General Assembly may contract debts, by borrowing money to pay any part of the debt of the State, without submission to the people, and without making provision in the act authorizing the same for a tax to discharge the debt so contracted, or the interest thereon.

SEC. 37. No law, enacted by the General Assembly, shall relate to more than one subject, and that shall be expressed in the title.

SEC. 38. The General Assembly shall not change the venue in any criminal or penal prosecution, but shall provide for the same by general laws.

SEC. 39. The General Assembly may pass laws authorizing writs of error in criminal or penal cases, and regulating the right of challenge of jurors therein.

SEC. 40. The General Assembly shall have no power to pass any act, or resolution, for the appropriation of any money, or the creation of any debt, exceeding the sum of one hundred dollars, at any one time, unless the same, on its final passage, shall be voted for by a majority of all the members then elected to each branch of the General Assembly; and the yeas and nays thereon entered on the journal.

### ARTICLE III.—*Concerning the Executive Department.*

SEC. 1. The Supreme Executive power of the Commonwealth shall be vested in a Chief Magistrate, who shall be styled the Governor of the Commonwealth of Kentucky.

SEC. 2. The Governor shall be elected for the term of four years, by the qualified voters of the State, at the time when, and places where, they shall respectively vote for Representatives. The person having the highest number of votes shall be Governor; but if two or more shall be equal and highest in votes, the election shall be determined by lot, in such manner as the General Assembly may direct.

SEC. 3. The Governor shall be ineligible for the succeeding four years after the expiration of the term for which he shall have been elected.

SEC. 4. He shall be at least thirty five years of age, and a citizen



of the United States, and have been an inhabitant of this State at least six years next preceding his election.

SEC. 5. He shall commence the execution of the duties of his office on the fifth Tuesday succeeding the day of the general election on which he shall have been chosen, and shall continue in the execution thereof until his successor shall have taken the oaths, or affirmations, prescribed by this Constitution.

SEC. 6. No member of Congress, or person holding any office under the United States, or minister of any religious society, shall be eligible to the office of Governor.

SEC. 7. The Governor shall, at stated times, receive for his services a compensation, which shall neither be increased nor diminished during the term for which he was elected.

SEC. 8. He shall be Commander-in-Chief of the army and navy of this Commonwealth, and of the militia thereof, except when they shall be called into the service of the United States; but he shall not command personally in the field, unless advised so to do by a resolution of the General Assembly.

SEC. 9. He shall have power to fill vacancies that may occur, by granting commissions, which shall expire when such vacancies shall have been filled according to the provisions of this Constitution.

SEC. 10. He shall have power to remit fines and forfeitures, grant reprieves and pardons, except in cases of impeachment. In cases of treason, he shall have power to grant reprieves until the end of the next session of the General Assembly, in which the power of pardoning shall be vested; but he shall have no power to remit the fees of the Clerk, Sheriff, or Commonwealth's Attorney, in penal or criminal cases.

SEC. 11. He may require information, in writing, from the officers in the executive department, upon any subject relating to the duties of their respective offices.

SEC. 12. He shall, from time to time, give to the General Assembly information of the state of the Commonwealth, and recommend to their consideration such measures as he may deem expedient.

SEC. 13. He may, on extraordinary occasions, convene the General Assembly at the seat of government, or at a different place if that should have become, since their last adjournment, dangerous from an enemy, or from contagious disorders; and in case of disagreement between the two houses, with respect to the time of adjournment, he may adjourn them to such time as he shall think proper, not exceeding four months.

SEC. 14. He shall take care that the laws be faithfully executed.

SEC. 15. A Lieutenant Governor shall be chosen at every regular election for Governor, in the same manner, to continue in office for the same time, and possess the same qualifications as the Governor. In voting for Governor and Lieutenant Governor, the electors shall

state for whom they vote as Governor, and for whom as Lieutenant Governor.

SEC. 16. He shall, by virtue of his office, be Speaker of the Senate, have a right, when in committee of the whole, to debate and vote on all subjects, and when the Senate are equally divided, to give the casting vote.

SEC. 17. Should the Governor be impeached, removed from office, die, refuse to qualify, resign, or be absent from the State, the Lieutenant Governor shall exercise all the power and authority appertaining to the office of Governor, until another be duly elected and qualified, or the Governor absent or impeached, shall return or be acquitted.

SEC. 18. Whenever the government shall be administered by the Lieutenant Governor, or he shall fail to attend as Speaker of the Senate, the Senators shall elect one of their own members as Speaker for that occasion. And if, during the vacancy of the office of Governor, the Lieutenant Governor shall be impeached, removed from office, refuse to qualify, resign, die, or be absent from the State, the Speaker of the Senate shall, in like manner, administer the government: *Provided*, that whenever a vacancy shall occur in the office of Governor, before the first two years of the term shall have expired, a new election for Governor shall take place, to fill such vacancy.

SEC. 19. The Lieutenant Governor, or Speaker *pro tempore* of the Senate, while he acts as Speaker of the Senate, shall receive for his services the same compensation which shall, for the same period, be allowed to the Speaker of the House of Representatives, and no more; and during the time he administers the government, as Governor, shall receive the same compensation which the Governor would have received, had he been employed in the duties of his office.

SEC. 20. If the Lieutenant Governor shall be called upon to administer the government, and shall, while in such administration, resign, die, or be absent from the State during the recess of the General Assembly, it shall be the duty of the Secretary of State, for the time being, to convene the Senate for the purpose of choosing a Speaker.

SEC. 21. The Governor shall nominate, and, by and with the advice and consent of the Senate, appoint a Secretary of State, who shall be commissioned during the term for which the Governor was elected, if he shall so long behave himself well. He shall keep a fair register, and attest all the official acts of the Governor, and shall, when required, lay the same, and all papers, minutes, and vouchers, relative thereto, before either house of the General Assembly; and shall perform such other duties as may be required of him by law.

SEC. 22. Every bill which shall have passed both houses, shall be presented to the Governor. If he approve, he shall sign it; but if



not, he shall return it with his objections, to the house in which it originated, who shall enter the objections at large upon their journal, and proceed to reconsider it. If, after such reconsideration, a majority of all the members elected to that house shall agree to pass the bill, it shall be sent, with the objections, to the other house, by which it shall likewise be considered, and if approved by a majority of all the members elected to that house, it shall be a law; but in such cases, the votes of both houses shall be determined by yeas and nays, and the names of the members voting for and against the bill, shall be entered upon the journals of each house, respectively. If any bill shall not be returned by the Governor, within ten days, (Sundays excepted,) after it shall have been presented to him, it shall be a law, in like manner as if he had signed it, unless the General Assembly, by their adjournment, prevent its return; in which case it shall be a law, unless sent back within three days after their next meeting.

SEC. 23. Every order, resolution, or vote, in which the concurrence of both houses may be necessary, except on a question of adjournment, shall be presented to the Governor, and before it shall take effect, be approved by him; or being disapproved, shall be re-passed by a majority of all the members elected to both houses, according to the rules and limitations prescribed in case of a bill.

SEC. 24. Contested elections for Governor and Lieutenant Governor shall be determined by both houses of the General Assembly, according to such regulations as may be established by law.

SEC. 25. A Treasurer shall be elected by the qualified voters of the State, for the term of two years; and an Auditor of Public Accounts, Register of the Land Office, and Attorney General, for the term of four years. The duties and responsibilities of these officers shall be prescribed by law: *Provided*, that inferior State officers, not specially provided for in this Constitution, may be appointed, or elected, in such manner as shall be prescribed by law, for a term not exceeding four years.

SEC. 26. The first election, under this Constitution, for Governor, Lieutenant Governor, Treasurer, Auditor of Public Accounts, Register of the land office, and Attorney General, shall be held on the first Monday in August in the year 1851.

#### ARTICLE IV.—*Concerning the Judicial Department.*

SEC. 1. The judicial power of this Commonwealth, both as to matters of law and equity, shall be vested in one Supreme Court, (to be styled the Court of Appeals,) the Courts established by this Constitution, and such Courts, inferior to the Supreme Court, as the General Assembly may, from time to time, erect and establish.

##### CONCERNING THE COURT OF APPEALS.

SEC. 2. The Court of Appeals shall have appellate jurisdiction only, which shall be co-extensive with the State, under such restric

tions and regulations, not repugnant to this Constitution, as may, from time to time, be prescribed by law.

SEC. 3. The Judges of the Court of Appeals shall, after their first term, hold their offices for eight years, from and after their election, and until their successors shall be duly qualified, subject to the conditions hereinafter prescribed; but for any reasonable cause, the Governor shall remove any of them on the address of two thirds of each house of the General Assembly: *Provided, however,* that the cause or causes for which such removal may be required, shall be stated at length in such address, and on the journal of each house. They shall, at stated times, receive for their services an adequate compensation, to be fixed by law, which shall not be diminished during the time for which they shall have been elected.

SEC. 4. The Court of Appeals shall consist of four Judges, any three of whom may constitute a Court for the transaction of business. The General Assembly, at its first session after the adoption of this Constitution, shall divide the State, by counties, into four districts, as nearly equal in voting population, and with as convenient limits as may be, in each of which the qualified voters shall elect one Judge of the Court of Appeals: *Provided,* that whenever a vacancy shall occur in said Court, from any cause, the General Assembly shall have the power to reduce the number of Judges and districts; but in no event shall there be less than three Judges and districts. Should a change in the number of the Judges of the Court of Appeals be made, the term of office and number of districts shall be so changed as to preserve the principle of electing one Judge every two years.

SEC. 5. The Judges shall, by virtue of their offices, be conservators of the peace throughout the State. The style of all process shall be, "The Commonwealth of Kentucky." All prosecutions shall be carried on in the name and by the authority of the Commonwealth of Kentucky, and conclude "against the peace and dignity of the same."

SEC. 6. The Judges first elected shall serve as follows, to wit: one shall serve until the first Monday in August, 1852; one until the first Monday in August, 1854; one until the first Monday in August, 1856, and one until the first Monday in August, 1858. The Judges, at the first term of the Court succeeding their election, shall determine, by lot, the length of time which each one shall serve; and at the expiration of the service of each, an election in the proper district shall take place to fill the vacancy. The Judge having the shortest time to serve shall be styled the Chief Justice of Kentucky.

SEC. 7. If a vacancy shall occur in said Court from any cause, the Governor shall issue a writ of election to the proper district to fill such vacancy for the residue of the term: *Provided,* that if the unexpired term be less than one year, the Governor shall appoint a Judge to fill such vacancy.

SEC. 8. No person shall be eligible to the office of Judge of the



Court of Appeals, who is not a citizen of the United States, a resident of the district for which he may be a candidate two years next preceding his election, at least thirty years of age, and who has not been a practicing lawyer eight years, or whose service upon the bench of any Court of record, when added to the time he may have practiced law, shall not be equal to eight years.

SEC. 9. The Court of Appeals shall hold its sessions at the seat of government, unless otherwise directed by law; but the General Assembly may, from time to time, direct that said Court shall hold sessions in any one or more of said districts.

SEC. 10. The first election of the Judges and Clerk or Clerks of the Court of Appeals shall take place on the second Monday in May, 1851, and thereafter, in each district as a vacancy may occur, by the expiration of the term of office; and the Judges of the said Court shall be commissioned by the Governor.

SEC. 11. There shall be elected, by the qualified voters of this State, a Clerk of the Court of Appeals, who shall hold his office, from the first election, until the first Monday in August, 1858, and thereafter for the term of eight years from and after his election; and should the General Assembly provide for holding the Court of Appeals in any one or more of said districts, they shall also provide for the election of a Clerk by the qualified voters of such district, who shall hold his office for eight years, possess the same qualifications, and be subject to removal in the same manner as the Clerk of the Court of Appeals; but if the General Assembly shall, at its first or any other session, direct the Court of Appeals to hold its sessions in more than one district, a Clerk shall be elected by the qualified voters of such district. And the Clerk, first provided for in this section, shall be elected by the qualified voters of the other district or districts. The same principle shall be observed whenever the Court shall be directed to hold its sessions in either of the other districts. Should the number of Judges be reduced, the term of the office of Clerk shall be six years.

SEC. 12. No person shall be eligible to the office of Clerk of the Court of Appeals, unless he be a citizen of the United States, a resident of the State two years next preceding his election, of the age of twenty one years, and have a certificate from a Judge of the Court of Appeals, or a Judge of the Circuit Court, that he has been examined by the Clerk of his Court, under his supervision, and that he is qualified for the office for which he is a candidate.

SEC. 13. Should a vacancy occur in the office of Clerk of the Court of Appeals, the Governor shall issue a writ of election, and the qualified voters of the State, or of the district in which the vacancy may occur, shall elect a Clerk of the Court of Appeals, to serve until the end of the term for which such Clerk was elected: *Provided*, that when a vacancy shall occur from any cause, or the Clerk be under charges upon information, the Judges of the Court of Appeals shall have power to appoint a Clerk *pro tem.*, to perform the duties of

Clerk until such vacancy shall be filled, or the Clerk acquitted: *And, provided further*, that no writ of election shall issue to fill a vacancy unless the unexpired term exceed one year.

SEC. 14. The General Assembly shall direct, by law, the mode and manner of conducting and making due returns to the Secretary of State, of all elections of the Judges and Clerk or Clerks of the Court of Appeals, and of determining contested elections of any of these officers.

SEC. 15. The General Assembly shall provide for an additional Judge or Judges, to constitute, with the remaining Judge or Judges, a special Court for the trial of such cause or causes as may, at any time, be pending in the Court of Appeals, on the trial of which a majority of the Judges cannot sit, on account of interest in the event of the cause; or on account of their relationship to either party; or when a Judge may have been employed in or decided the cause in the inferior Court.

#### CONCERNING THE CIRCUIT COURTS.

SEC. 16. A Circuit Court shall be established in each county now existing, or which may hereafter be erected in this Commonwealth.

SEC. 17. The jurisdiction of said Court shall be, and remain as now established, hereby giving to the General Assembly the power to change or alter it.

SEC. 18. The right to appeal or sue out a writ of error to the Court of Appeals shall remain as it now exists, until altered by law, hereby giving to the General Assembly the power to change, alter, or modify said right.

SEC. 19. At the first session after the adoption of this Constitution, the General Assembly shall divide the State into twelve judicial districts, having due regard to business, territory, and population: *Provided*, that no county shall be divided.

SEC. 20. They shall, at the same time that the judicial districts are laid off, direct elections to be held in each district, to elect a Judge for said district, and shall prescribe in what manner the elections shall be conducted. The first election of Judges of the Circuit Court shall take place on the second Monday in May, 1851; and afterwards on the first Monday in August, 1856, and on the first Monday in August in every sixth year thereafter.

SEC. 21. All persons qualified to vote for members of the General Assembly, in each district, shall have the right to vote for Judges.

SEC. 22. No person shall be eligible as Judge of the Circuit Court who is not a citizen of the United States, a resident of the district for which he may be a candidate two years next preceding his election, at least thirty years of age, and who has not been a practicing lawyer eight years, or whose service upon the bench of any Court of record, when added to the time he may have practiced law, shall not be equal to eight years.



SEC. 23. The Judges of the Circuit Court shall, after their first term, hold their office for the term of six years from the day of their election. They shall be commissioned by the Governor, and continue in office until their successors be qualified, but shall be removable from office in the same manner as the Judges of the Court of Appeals; and the removal of a Judge from his district shall vacate his office.

SEC. 24. The General Assembly, if they deem it necessary, may establish one additional district every four years, but the judicial districts shall not exceed sixteen, until the population of this State shall exceed one million five hundred thousand.

SEC. 25. The Judges of the Circuit Courts shall, at stated times, receive for their services an adequate compensation, to be fixed by law, which shall be equal and uniform throughout the State, and which shall not be diminished during the time for which they were elected.

SEC. 26. If a vacancy shall occur in the office of Judge of the Circuit Court, the Governor shall issue a writ of election to fill such vacancy, for the residue of the term: *Provided*, that if the unexpired term be less than one year, the Governor shall appoint a Judge to fill such vacancy.

SEC. 27. The Judicial Districts of this State shall not be changed, except at the first session after an enumeration, unless when a new District may be established.

SEC. 28. The General Assembly shall provide by law for holding Circuit Courts, when, from any cause, the Judge shall fail to attend, or, if in attendance, cannot properly preside.

#### CONCERNING COUNTY COURTS.

SEC. 29. A County Court shall be established in each county now existing, or which may hereafter be erected within this Commonwealth, to consist of a Presiding Judge, and two Associate Judges, any two of whom shall constitute a court for the transaction of business: *Provided*, the General Assembly may at any time abolish the office of the Associate Judges, whenever it shall be deemed expedient; in which event they may associate with said court any or all of the Justices of the Peace for the transaction of business.

SEC. 30. The Judges of the County Court shall be elected by the qualified voters in each county, for the term of four years, and shall continue in office until their successors be duly qualified, and shall receive such compensation for their services as may be provided by law.

SEC. 31. The first election of County Court Judges shall take place at the same time of the election of Judges of the Circuit Court. The Presiding Judge, first elected, shall hold his office until the first Monday in August, 1854. The Associate Judges shall hold their offices until the first Monday in August, 1852, and until their successors be qualified; and afterwards elections shall be held on the

first Mondays in August, in the years in which vacancies regularly occur.

SEC. 32. No person shall be eligible to the office of Presiding or Associate Judge of the County Court, unless he be a citizen of the United States, over twenty one years of age, and shall have been a resident of the county in which he shall be chosen, one year next preceding the election.

SEC. 33. The jurisdiction of the County Court shall be regulated by law; and, until changed, shall be the same now vested in the County Courts of this State.

SEC. 34. Each county in this State shall be laid off into districts of convenient size, as the General Assembly may, from time to time, direct. Two Justices of the Peace shall be elected in each district, by the qualified voters therein, at such time and place as may be prescribed by law, for the term of four years, whose jurisdiction shall be co-extensive with the county; no person shall be eligible as a Justice of the Peace, unless he be a citizen of the United States, twenty one years of age, and a resident of the district in which he may be candidate.

SEC. 35. Judges of the County Court, and Justices of the Peace, shall be conservators of the peace. They shall be commissioned by the Governor. County and district officers shall vacate their offices by removal from the district or county in which they shall be appointed. The General Assembly shall provide, by law, the manner of conducting and making due return of all elections of Judges of the County Court and Justices of the Peace, and for determining contested elections, and provide the mode of filling vacancies in these offices.

SEC. 36. Judges of the County Court and Justices of the Peace, Sheriffs, Coroners, Surveyors, Jailers, County Assessor, Attorney for the County, and Constables, shall be subject to indictment or presentment for malfeasance or misfeasance in office, or wilful neglect in the discharge of their official duties, in such mode as may be prescribed by law, subject to appeal to the Court of Appeals; and, upon conviction, their offices shall become vacant.

SEC. 37. The General Assembly may provide, by law, that the Justices of the Peace in each county shall sit at the Court of Claims and assist in laying the county levy and making appropriations only.

SEC. 38. When any city or town shall have a separate representation, such city or town, and the county in which it is located, may have such separate Municipal Courts, and executive and ministerial officers as the General Assembly may, from time to time, provide.

SEC. 39. The Clerks of the Court of Appeals, Circuit, and County Courts, shall be removable from office by the Court of Appeals, upon information and good cause shown. The Court shall be Judges of the fact as well as the law. Two-thirds of the members present must concur in the sentence.



SEC. 40. The Louisville Chancery Court shall exist under this Constitution, subject to repeal, and its jurisdiction to enlargement and modification by the General Assembly. The Chancellor, shall have the same qualifications as a Circuit Court Judge, and the Clerk of said Court as a Clerk of a Circuit Court, and the Marshal of said Court as a Sheriff; and the General Assembly shall provide for the election, by the qualified voters within its jurisdiction, of the Chancellor, Clerk, and Marshal of said Court, at the same time that the Judge and Clerk of the Circuit Court are elected for the county of Jefferson, and they shall hold their offices for the same time, and shall be removable in the same manner: *Provided*, that the Marshal of said Court shall be ineligible for the succeeding term.

SEC. 41. The City Court of Louisville, the Lexington City Court, and all other Police Courts established in any city or town, shall remain until otherwise directed by law, with their present powers and jurisdictions; and the Judges, Clerks, and Marshals of such Courts shall have the same qualifications, and shall be elected by the qualified voters of such cities or towns, at the same time, and in the same manner, and hold their offices for the same term as County Judges, Clerks, and Sheriffs, respectively, and shall be liable to removal in the same manner. The General Assembly may vest judicial powers, for police purposes, in Mayors of cities, Police Judges, and Trustees of towns.

#### ARTICLE V.—*Concerning Impeachments.*

SEC. 1. The House of Representatives shall have the sole power of impeachment.

SEC. 2. All impeachments shall be tried by the Senate. When sitting for that purpose, the Senators shall be upon oath or affirmation. No person shall be convicted without the concurrence of two-thirds of the members present.

SEC. 3. The Governor and all civil officers, shall be liable to impeachment for any misdemeanor in office; but judgment in such cases shall not extend further than to removal from office, and disqualification to hold any office of honor, trust, or profit, under this Commonwealth; but the party convicted shall, nevertheless, be subject and liable to indictment, trial, and punishment by law.

#### ARTICLE VI.—*Concerning Executive and Ministerial Officers for Counties and Districts.*

SEC. 1. A Commonwealth's Attorney for each judicial district, and a Circuit Court Clerk for each county, shall be elected, whose term of office shall be the same as that of the Circuit Judges; also, a County Court Clerk, an Attorney, Surveyor, Coroner, and Jailer, for each county, whose term of office shall be the same as that of the Presiding Judge of the County Court.

SEC. 2. No person shall be eligible to the offices mentioned in this article, who is not at the time twenty four years old, (except Clerks

of County and Circuit Courts, Sheriffs, Constables, and County Attorneys, who shall be eligible at the age of twenty-one years,) a citizen of the United States, and who has not resided two years next preceding the election, in the State, and one year in the county or district for which he is a candidate. No person shall be eligible to the office of Commonwealth's or County Attorney, unless he shall have been a licensed practicing attorney for two years. No person shall be eligible to the office of Clerk unless he shall have procured from a Judge of the Court of Appeals, or a Judge of the Circuit Court, a certificate that he has been examined by the Clerk of his Court, under his supervision, and that he is qualified for the office for which he is a candidate.

SEC. 3. The Commonwealth's Attorney and Circuit Court Clerk shall be elected at the same time as the Circuit Judge—the Commonwealth's Attorney by the qualified voters of the district, the Circuit Court Clerk by the qualified voters of the county. The County Attorney, Clerk, Surveyor, Coroner, and Jailer, shall be elected at the same time, and in the same manner, as the Presiding Judge of the County Court.

SEC. 4. A Sheriff shall be elected in each county, by the qualified voters thereof, whose term of office shall, after the first term, be two years, and until his successor be qualified; and he shall be re-eligible for a second term; but no Sheriff shall, after the expiration of the second term, be re-eligible, or act as deputy, for the succeeding term. The first election of Sheriff shall be on the second Monday in May, 1851; and the Sheriffs, then elected, shall hold their offices until the first Monday in January, 1853, and until their successors be qualified; and on the first Monday in August, 1852, and on the first Monday of August in every second year thereafter, elections for Sheriffs shall be held: *Provided*, that the Sheriffs first elected, shall enter upon the duties of their respective offices on the first Monday in June, 1851, and after the first election on the first Monday in January next succeeding their election.

SEC. 5. A Constable shall be elected in every Justice's District, who shall be chosen for two years, at such time and place as may be provided by law, whose jurisdiction shall be co-extensive with the county in which he may reside.

SEC. 6. Officers for towns and cities shall be elected for such terms, and in such manner, and with such qualifications, as may be prescribed by law.

SEC. 7. Vacancies in offices under this article shall be filled, until the next regular election, in such manner as the General Assembly may provide.

SEC. 8. When a new county shall be erected, officers for the same, to serve until the next stated election, shall be elected, or appointed in such way and at such times as the General Assembly may prescribe.

SEC. 9. Clerks, Sheriffs, Surveyors, Coroners, Constables, and Jail-



ers, and such other officers as the General Assembly may, from time to time require, shall, before they enter upon the duties of their respective offices, and as often thereafter as may be deemed proper, give such bond and security as shall be prescribed by law.

SEC. 10. The General Assembly may provide for the election or appointment, for a term not exceeding four years, of such other county or district ministerial and executive offices as shall, from time to time, be necessary and proper.

SEC. 11. A County Assessor shall be elected in each county at the same time and for the same term that the Presiding Judge of the County Court is elected, until otherwise provided for by law. He shall have power to appoint such assistants as may be necessary and proper.

#### ARTICLE VII.—*Concerning the Militia.*

SEC. 1. The Militia of this Commonwealth shall consist of all free, able-bodied male persons (negroes, mulattoes, and Indians excepted,) resident in the same, between the ages of eighteen and forty-five years; except such persons as now are, or hereafter may be, exempted by the laws of the United States or of this State; but those who belong to religious societies, whose tenets forbid them to carry arms, shall not be compelled to do so, but shall pay an equivalent for personal services.

SEC. 2. The Governor shall appoint the Adjutant General, and his other staff officers; the Major Generals, Brigadier Generals, and Commandants of Regiments, shall, respectively, appoint their staff officers; and Commandants of Companies shall appoint their non-commissioned officers.

SEC. 3. All militia officers, whose appointment is not herein otherwise provided for, shall be elected by persons subject to military duty, within their respective companies, battalions, regiments, brigades, and divisions, under such rules and regulations, and for such terms, not exceeding six years, as the General Assembly may, from time to time, direct and establish.

#### ARTICLE VIII.—*General Provisions.*

SEC. 1. Members of the General Assembly, and all officers, before they enter upon the execution of the duties of their respective offices, and all members of the bar, before they enter upon the practice of their profession, shall take the following oath or affirmation: I do solemnly swear, (or affirm, as the case may be,) that I will support the Constitution of the United States, and the Constitution of this State, and be faithful and true to the Commonwealth of Kentucky, so long as I continue a citizen thereof, and that I will faithfully execute, to the best of my abilities the office of \_\_\_\_\_ according to law; and I do further solemnly swear, (or affirm,) that since the adoption of the present Constitution, I, being a citizen of this State, have not fought a duel, with deadly weapons, within this State nor

out of it, with a citizen of this State, nor have I sent or accepted a challenge to fight a duel with deadly weapons, with a citizen of this State; nor have I acted as second in carrying a challenge, or aided, or assisted any person thus offending—so held me God.

SEC. 2. Treason against the Commonwealth shall consist only in levying war against it, or in adhering to its enemies, giving them aid and comfort. No person shall be convicted of treason, unless on the testimony of two witnesses to the same over act or his own confession in open court.

SEC. 3. Every person shall be disqualified from holding any office of trust or profit for the term for which he shall have been elected, who shall be convicted of having given or offered any bribe or treat to procure his election.

SEC. 4. Laws shall be made to exclude from office and from suffrage, those who shall thereafter be convicted of bribery, perjury, forgery, or other crimes or high misdemeanors. The privilege of free suffrage shall be supported by laws regulating elections, and prohibiting, under adequate penalties, all undue influence thereon from power, bribery, tumult, or other improper practices.

SEC. 5. No money shall be drawn from the Treasury, but in pursuance of appropriations made by law, nor shall any appropriations of money for the support of an army be made for a longer time than two years, and a regular statement and account of the receipts and expenditures of all public money shall be published annually.

SEC. 6. The General Assembly may direct, by law, in what manner, and in what Courts, suits may be brought against the Commonwealth.

SEC. 7. The manner of administering an oath or affirmation shall be such as is most consistent with the conscience of the deponent, and shall be esteemed by the General Assembly the most solemn appeal to God.

SEC. 8. All laws which, on the first day of June, one thousand seven hundred and ninety two, were in force in the State of Virginia, and which are of a general nature, and not local to that State, and not repugnant to this Constitution, nor to the laws which have been enacted by the General Assembly of this Commonwealth, shall be in force within this State, until they shall be altered or repealed by the General Assembly.

SEC. 9. The compact with the State of Virginia, subject to such alterations as may be made therein agreeably to the mode prescribed by the said compact, shall be considered as part of this Constitution.

SEC. 10. It shall be the duty of the General Assembly to pass such laws as shall be necessary and proper to decide differences by arbitrators, to be appointed by the parties who may choose that summary mode of adjustment.

SEC. 11. All civil officers for the Commonwealth, at large, shall reside within the State, and all district, county, or town officers, within their respective districts, counties, or towns, (trustees of



towns excepted,) and shall keep their offices at such places therein as may be required by law; and all militia officers shall reside in the bounds of the division, brigade, regiment, battalion, or company, to which they may severally belong.

SEC. 12. Absence on the business of this State, or the United States, shall not forfeit a residence once obtained, so as to deprive any one of the right of suffrage, or of being elected or appointed to any office under this Commonwealth, under the exceptions contained in this Constitution.

SEC. 13. It shall be the duty of the General Assembly to regulate, by law, in what cases, and what deductions from the salaries of public officers shall be made, for neglect of duty in their official capacity.

SEC. 14. Returns of all elections by the people, shall be made to the Secretary of State, for the time being, except in those cases otherwise provided for in this Constitution, or which shall be otherwise directed by law.

SEC. 15. In all elections by the people, and also by the Senate and House of Representatives, jointly or separately, the votes shall be personally and publicly given, *viva voce*: *Provided*, that dumb persons, entitled to suffrage, may vote by ballot.

SEC. 16. All elections by the people shall be held between the hours of six o'clock in the morning and seven o'clock in the evening.

SEC. 17. The General Assembly shall, by law, prescribe the time when the several officers authorized or directed by this Constitution to be elected or appointed, shall enter upon the duties of their respective offices, except where the time is fixed by this Constitution.

SEC. 18. No member of Congress, nor person holding or exercising any office of trust or profit under the United States, or either of them, or under any foreign power, shall be eligible as a member of the General Assembly of this Commonwealth, or hold or exercise any office of trust or profit under the same.

SEC. 19. The General Assembly shall direct, by law, how persons who now are, or who may hereafter become securities for public officers, may be relieved or discharged on account of such securityship.

SEC. 20. Any person who shall, after the adoption of this Constitution, either directly or indirectly, give, accept, or knowingly carry a challenge to any person or persons, to fight in single combat, with a citizen of this State, with any deadly weapon, either in or out of the State, shall be deprived of the right to hold any office of honor or profit in this Commonwealth, and shall be punished otherwise in such manner as the General Assembly may prescribe by law.

SEC. 21. The Governor shall have power, after five years from the time of the offence, to pardon all persons who shall have in anywise participated in a duel, either as principals, seconds, or otherwise, and to restore him or them to all the rights, privileges and immunities to which he or they were entitled before such participation. And

upon the presentation of such pardon, the oath prescribed in the first section of this article shall be varied to suit the case.

SEC. 22. At its first session after the adoption of this Constitution the General Assembly shall appoint not more than three persons, learned in the law, whose duty it shall be to revise and arrange the statute laws of this Commonwealth, both civil and criminal, so as to have but one law on any one subject; and also, three other persons, learned in the law, whose duty it shall be to prepare a code of practice for the Courts, both civil and criminal, in this Commonwealth, by abridging and simplifying the rules of practice and laws in relation thereto; all of whom shall, at as early a day as practicable, report the result of their labors to the General Assembly, for their adoption or modification.

SEC. 23. So long as the Board of Internal Improvement shall be continued, the President thereof shall be elected by the qualified voters of this Commonwealth, and hold the office for the term of four years, and until another be duly elected and qualified. The election shall be held at the same time, and be conducted in the same manner, as the election of Governor of this Commonwealth under this Constitution; but nothing herein contained shall prevent the General Assembly from abolishing said Board of Internal Improvement, or the office of President thereof.

SEC. 24. The General Assembly shall provide, by law, for the trial of any contested election of Auditor, Register, Treasurer, Attorney General, Judges of Circuit Courts, and all other officers not otherwise herein specified.

SEC. 25. The General Assembly shall provide by law for the making of the returns by the proper officers, of the election of all officers to be elected under this Constitution; and the Governor shall issue commissions to the Auditor, Register, Treasurer, President of the Board of Internal Improvement, Superintendent of Public Instruction, and such other officers as he may be directed, by law, to commission, as soon as he has ascertained the result of the election of those officers respectively.

SEC. 26. When a vacancy shall happen in the office of Attorney General, Auditor of Public Accounts, Treasurer, Register of the Land Office, President of the Board of Internal Improvement, or Superintendent of Public Instruction, the Governor, in the recess of the Senate, shall have power to fill the vacancy by granting commissions which shall expire at the end of the next session, and shall fill the vacancy for the balance of the time by and with the advice and consent of the Senate.

#### ARTICLE IX.—*Concerning the seat of Government.*

The seat of government shall continue in the city of Frankfort, until it shall be removed by law: *Provided, however,* that two-thirds of all the members elected to each house of the General Assembly shall concur in the passage of such law.



ARTICLE X.—*Concerning Slaves.*

SEC. 1. The General Assembly shall have no power to pass laws for the emancipation of slaves without the consent of their owners, or without paying their owners, previous to such emancipation, a full equivalent in money for the slaves so emancipated, and providing for their removal from the State. They shall have no power to prevent immigrants to this State from bringing with them such persons as are deemed slaves by the laws of any of the United States, so long as any person of the same age or description shall be continued in slavery by the laws of this State. They shall pass laws to permit owners of slaves to emancipate them, saving the rights of creditors, and to prevent them from remaining in this State after they are emancipated. They shall have full power to prevent slaves being brought into this State as merchandise. They shall have full power to prevent slaves being brought into this State, who have been, since the first day of January, one thousand seven hundred and eighty nine, or may hereafter be imported into any of the United States from a foreign country. And they shall have full power to pass such laws as may be necessary to oblige the owners of slaves to treat them with humanity; to provide for them necessary clothing and provision; to abstain from all injuries to them, extending to life or limb; and in case of their neglect or refusal to comply with the directions of such laws, to have such slave or slaves sold for the benefit of their owner or owners.

SEC. 2. The General Assembly shall pass laws providing that any free negro or mulatto hereafter immigrating to, and any slave hereafter emancipated in, and refusing to leave this State, or having left, shall return and settle within this State, shall be deemed guilty of felony, and punished by confinement in the Penitentiary thereof.

SEC. 3. In the prosecution of slaves for felony, no inquest by a grand jury shall be necessary; but the proceedings in such prosecutions shall be regulated by law, except that the General Assembly shall have no power to deprive them of the privilege of an impartial trial by a petit jury.

ARTICLE XI.—*Concerning Education.*

SEC. 1. The capital of the fund called and known as the "Common School Fund," consisting of one million two hundred and twenty five thousand seven hundred and sixty eight dollars and forty two cents, for which bonds have been executed by the State to the Board of Education, and seventy three thousand five hundred dollars of stock in the Bank of Kentucky; also, the sum of fifty one thousand two hundred and twenty three dollars and twenty nine cents, balance of interest on the School Fund for the year 1848, unexpended, together with any sum which may be hereafter raised in the State by taxation, or otherwise, for purposes of education, shall be held inviolate, for the purpose of sustaining a system of Common Schools.

The interest and dividends of said funds, together with any sum which may be produced for that purpose by taxation or otherwise, may be appropriated in aid of Common Schools, but for no other purpose. The General Assembly shall invest said fifty one thousand two hundred and twenty three dollars and twenty nine cents in some safe and profitable manner; and any portion of the interest and dividends of said School Fund, or other money or property raised for school purposes, which may not be needed in sustaining Common Schools, shall be invested in like manner. The General Assembly shall make provision, by law, for the payment of the interest of said School Fund: *Provided*, that each county shall be entitled to its proportion of the income of said fund, and if not called for, for common school purposes, it shall be re-invested from time to time for the benefit of such county.

SEC. 2. A Superintendent of Public Instruction shall be elected by the qualified voters of this Commonwealth, at the same time the Governor is elected, who shall hold his office for four years, and his duties and salary shall be prescribed and fixed by law.

#### ARTICLE XII.—*Mode of revising the Constitution.*

SEC. 1. When experience shall point out the necessity of amending this Constitution, and when a majority of all the members elected to each house of the General Assembly shall, within the first twenty days of any regular session, concur in passing a law for taking the sense of the good people of this Commonwealth as to the necessity and expediency of calling a Convention, it shall be the duty of the several Sheriffs, and other officers of elections, at the next general election which shall be held for representatives to the General Assembly, after the passage of such law, to open a poll for, and make return to the Secretary of State, for the time being, of the names of all those entitled to vote for representatives, who have voted for calling a Convention; and if, thereupon, it shall appear that a majority of all the citizens of this State entitled to vote for representatives, have voted for calling a Convention, the General Assembly shall, at their next regular session, direct that a similar poll shall be opened, and return made for the next election for representatives; and if, thereupon, it shall appear that a majority of all the citizens of this State, entitled to vote for representatives, have voted for calling a Convention, the General Assembly shall, at their next session, pass a law calling a Convention, to consist of as many members as there shall be in the House of Representatives, and no more; to be chosen on the first Monday in August thereafter, in the same manner and proportion, and at the same places, and possessed of the same qualifications of a qualified elector, by citizens entitled to vote for representatives; and to meet within three months after their election, for the purpose of re-adopting, amending, or changing this Constitution; but if it shall appear by the vote of either year, as aforesaid, that a majority of all the citizens entitled to vote for repre-



representatives did not vote for calling a Convention, a Convention shall not then be called. And for the purpose of ascertaining whether a majority of the citizens, entitled to vote for representatives, did or did not vote for calling a Convention, as above, the General Assembly passing the law authorizing such vote shall provide for ascertaining the number of citizens entitled to vote for representatives within the State.

SEC. 2. The Convention, when assembled, shall judge of the election of its members and decide contested elections, but the General Assembly shall, in calling a Convention, provide for taking testimony in such cases and for issuing a writ of election in case of a tie.

### ARTICLE XIII.—*Bill of Rights.*

That the general, great, and essential principles of liberty and free government may be recognized and established; WE DECLARE,

SEC. 1. That all freemen, when they form a social compact, are equal, and that no man, or set of men, are entitled to exclusive, separate public emoluments or privileges from the community, but in consideration of public services.

SEC. 2. That absolute, arbitrary power over the lives, liberty, and property of freemen, exists nowhere in a republic—not even in the largest majority.

SEC. 3. The right of property is before and higher than any constitutional sanction; and the right of the owner of a slave to such slave, and its increase, is the same, and as inviolable as the right of the owner of any property whatever.

SEC. 4. That all power is inherent in the people, and all free governments are founded on their authority, and instituted for their peace, safety, happiness, security, and the protection of property. For the advancement of these ends, they have at all times an inalienable and indefeasible right to alter, reform, or abolish their government, in such manner as they may think proper.

SEC. 5. That all men have a natural and indefeasible right to worship Almighty God according to the dictates of their own consciences; that no man shall be compelled to attend, erect, or support any place of worship, or to maintain any ministry against his consent; that no human authority ought, in any case whatever, to control or interfere with the rights of conscience; and that no preference shall ever be given, by law, to any religious societies or modes of worship.

SEC. 6. That the civil rights, privileges, or capacities, of any citizen shall in no wise be diminished or enlarged on account of his religion.

SEC. 7. That all elections shall be free and equal.

SEC. 8. That the ancient mode of trial by jury shall be held sacred, and the right thereof remain inviolate, subject to such modifications as may be authorized by this Constitution.

SEC. 9. That printing presses shall be free to every person who

undertakes to examine the proceedings of the General Assembly, or any branch of government, and no law shall ever be made to restrain the right thereof. The free communication of thoughts and opinions is one of the invaluable rights of man, and every citizen may freely speak, write, and print, on any subject, being responsible for the abuse of that liberty.

SEC. 10. In prosecutions for the publication of papers investigating the official conduct of officers or men in a public capacity, or where the matter published is proper for public information, the truth thereof may be given in evidence; and in all indictments for libels, the jury shall have a right to determine the law and the facts, under the direction of the Court, as in other cases.

SEC. 11. That the people shall be secure in their persons, houses, papers, and possessions, from unreasonable seizures and searches, and that no warrant to search any place, or to seize any person, or thing, shall issue, without describing them as nearly as may be, nor without probable cause, supported by oath or affirmation.

SEC. 12. That in all criminal prosecutions, the accused hath a right to be heard by himself and counsel; to demand the nature and cause of the accusation against him; to meet the witnesses face to face; to have compulsory process for obtaining witnesses in his favor; and in prosecutions by indictment or information, a speedy public trial by an impartial jury of the vicinage; that he cannot be compelled to give evidence against himself; nor can he be deprived of his life, liberty, or property, unless by the judgment of his peers, or the law of the land.

SEC. 13. That no person shall, for any indictable offence, be proceeded against criminally, by information, except in cases arising in the land or naval forces, or in the militia when in actual service, in time of war or public danger, or by leave of the Court, for oppression or misdemeanor in office.

SEC. 14. No person shall, for the same offence, be twice put in jeopardy of his life or limb; nor shall any man's property be taken or applied to public use, without the consent of his representatives, and without just compensation being previously made to him.

SEC. 15. That all Courts shall be open, and every person, for an injury done him in his lands, goods, person, or reputation, shall have remedy by the due course of law, and right and justice administered, without sale, denial, or delay.

SEC. 16. That no power of suspending laws shall be exercised, unless by the General Assembly, or its authority.

SEC. 17. That excessive bail shall not be required, nor excessive fines imposed, nor cruel punishments inflicted.

SEC. 18. That all prisoners shall be bailable by sufficient securities, unless for capital offences, when the proof is evident or presumption great; and the privilege of the writ of *habeas corpus* shall not be suspended, unless when in cases of rebellion or invasion the public safety may require it.



SEC. 19. That the person of a debtor, where there is not strong presumption of fraud, shall not be continued in prison after delivering up his estate for the benefit of his creditors, in such manner as shall be prescribed by law.

SEC. 20. That no *ex post facto* law, nor any law impairing contracts, shall be made.

SEC. 21. That no person shall be attainted of treason or felony by the General Assembly.

SEC. 22. That no attainder shall work corruption of blood, nor, except during the life of the offender, forfeiture of estate to the Commonwealth.

SEC. 23. That the estates of such persons as shall destroy their own lives, shall descend or vest as in case of natural death; and if any person shall be killed by casualty, there shall be no forfeiture by reason thereof.

SEC. 24. That the citizens have a right, in a peaceable manner, to assemble together for their common good, and to apply to those invested with the powers of government, for redress of grievances, or other proper purposes, by petition, address, or remonstrance.

SEC. 25. That the rights of the citizens to bear arms in defence of themselves and the State shall not be questioned; but the General Assembly may pass laws to prevent persons from carrying concealed arms.

SEC. 26. That no standing army shall, in time of peace, be kept up, without the consent of the General Assembly; and the military shall, in all cases, and at all times, be in strict subordination to the civil power.

SEC. 27. That no soldier shall, in time of peace, be quartered in any house without the consent of the owner; nor in time of war, but in a manner to be prescribed by law.

SEC. 28. That the General Assembly shall not grant any title of nobility, or hereditary distinction, nor create any office, the appointment to which shall be for a longer time than for a term of years.

SEC. 29. That emigration from the State shall not be prohibited.

SEC. 30. To guard against transgressions of the high powers which we have delegated, WE DECLARE, that everything in this article is excepted out of the general powers of government, and shall forever remain inviolate; and that all laws contrary thereto, or contrary to this Constitution, shall be void.

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## SCHEDULE.

THAT no inconvenience may arise from the alterations and amendments made in the Constitution of this Commonwealth, and in order to carry the same into complete operation, it is hereby declared and ordained :

SEC. 1. That all the laws of this Commonwealth, in force at the time of the adoption of this Constitution, and not inconsistent therewith, and all rights, actions, prosecutions, claims, and contracts, as well of individuals as of bodies corporate, shall continue as if this Constitution had not been adopted.

SEC. 2. The oaths of office herein directed to be taken may be administered by any Judge or Justice of the Peace, until the General Assembly shall otherwise direct.

SEC. 3. No office shall be superseded by the adoption of this Constitution, but the laws of the State relative to the duties of the several officers, Legislative, Executive, Judicial, and Military, shall remain in full force, though the same be contrary to this Constitution, and the several duties shall be performed by the respective officers of the State, according to the existing laws, until the organization of the Government, as provided for under this Constitution, and the entering into office of the officers to be elected or appointed under said Government and no longer.

SEC. 4. It shall be the duty of the General Assembly which shall convene in the year 1850, to make an apportionment of the representation of this State, upon the principle set forth in this Constitution; and until the first apportionment shall be made as herein directed, the apportionment of Senators and Representatives among the several districts and counties in this State, shall remain as at present fixed by law: *Provided*, that on the first Monday in August, 1850, all Senators shall go out of office, and on that day an election for Senators and Representatives shall be held throughout the State, and those then elected shall hold their offices for one year, and no longer: *Provided further*, that at the elections to be held in the year 1850, that provision in this Constitution which requires voters to vote in the precinct within which they reside, shall not apply.

SEC. 5. All recognizances heretofore taken, or which may be taken before the organization of the judicial department under this Constitution, shall remain as valid as though this Constitution had not been adopted, and may be prosecuted in the name of the Commonwealth. All criminal prosecutions and penal actions which have arisen, or may arise before the re-organization of the judicial department under this Constitution, may be prosecuted to judgment and execution, in the name of the Commonwealth.

"We, the Representatives of the freemen of Kentucky, in Convention assembled, in their name, and by the authority of the Commonwealth of Kentucky, and in virtue of the powers vested in us, as Delegates from the counties respectively affixed to our names, do ordain and proclaim the foregoing to be the Constitution of the Commonwealth of Kentucky from and after this day.

"Done at Frankfort this eleventh day of June, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and fifty, and in the fifty ninth year of the Commonwealth."

JAMES GUTHRIE,

*President of the Convention, and member from the city of Louisville.*





## OHIO.



OHIO is the most populous, wealthy and improved State west of the Alleghany mountains. The first white settlement was made in 1788, yet now it is the third State in the union in population. In 1799 Ohio formed a territorial government, and in 1802 adopted its Constitution, and was admitted into the Union. A new constitution was adopted in 1851.

Area, 40,000 sq. m. Pop. in 1850, 1,977,031.

## CONSTITUTION.

WE, the people of the State of Ohio, grateful to Almighty God for our freedom, to secure its blessings and promote our common welfare, do establish this constitution.

### ARTICLE I.—*Bill of Rights.*

SEC. 1. All men are by nature free and independent, and have certain inalienable rights, among which are those of enjoying and defending life and liberty, acquiring, possessing, and protecting property, and seeking and obtaining happiness and safety.

2. All political power is inherent in the people. Government is instituted for their equal protection and benefit, and they have the



right to alter, reform, or abolish the same, whenever they may deem it necessary; and no special privileges or immunities shall ever be granted that may not be altered, revoked, or repealed by the General Assembly.

3. The people have the right to assemble together in a peaceable manner, to consult for their common good, to instruct their representatives, and to petition the General Assembly for the redress of grievances.

4. The people have the right to bear arms for their defence and security; but standing armies in time of peace are dangerous to liberty, and shall not be kept up; and the military shall be in strict subordination to the civil power.

5. The right of trial by jury shall be inviolate.

6. There shall be no slavery in this State, nor involuntary servitude, unless for the punishment of crime.

7. All men have a natural and indefeasible right to worship Almighty God according to the dictates of their own conscience. No person shall be compelled to attend, erect, or support any place of worship, or maintain any form of worship, against his consent; and no preference shall be given by law to any religious society; nor shall any interference with the rights of conscience be permitted. No religious test shall be required as a qualification for office, nor shall any person be incompetent to be a witness on account of his religious belief; but nothing herein shall be construed to dispense with oaths and affirmations. Religion, morality and knowledge, however, being essential to good government, it shall be the duty of the General Assembly to pass suitable laws to protect every religious denomination in the peaceable enjoyment of its own mode of public worship, and to encourage schools and the means of instruction.

8. The privilege of the writ of habeas corpus shall not be suspended, unless, in cases of rebellion or invasion, the public safety require it.

9. All persons shall be bailable by sufficient sureties, except for capital offences where the proof is evident, or the presumption great. Excessive bail shall not be required; nor excessive fines imposed; nor cruel and unusual punishments inflicted.

10. Except in cases of impeachment, and cases arising in the army and navy, or in the militia when in actual service in time of war or public danger, and in cases of petit larceny and other inferior offences, no person shall be held to answer for a capital, or otherwise infamous crime, unless on presentment or indictment of a grand jury. In any trial, in any court, the party accused shall be allowed to appear and defend in person and with counsel; to demand the nature and cause of the accusation against him, and to have a copy thereof; to meet the witnesses face to face, and to have compulsory process to procure the attendance of witnesses in his behalf, and a speedy public trial by an impartial jury of the county or district, in which the offence is alleged to have been committed; nor shall any person

be compelled, in any criminal case, to be a witness against himself, or be twice put in jeopardy for the same offence.

11. Every citizen may freely speak, write, and publish his sentiments on all subjects, being responsible for the abuse of the right; and no law shall be passed to restrain or abridge the liberty of speech, or of the press. In all criminal prosecutions for libel, the truth may be given in evidence to the jury, and if it shall appear to the jury, that the matter charged as libelious is true, and was published with good motives, and for justifiable ends, the party shall be acquitted.

12. No person shall be transported out of the State, for any offence committed within the same; and no conviction shall work corruption of blood, or forfeiture of estate.

13. No soldier shall, in time of peace, be quartered in any house without the consent of the owner; nor, in time of war, except in the manner prescribed by law.

14. The right of the people to be secure in their persons, houses, papers, and possessions, against unreasonable searches and seizures shall not be violated; and no warrant shall issue, but upon probable cause, supported by oath or affirmation, particularly describing the place to be searched, and the person and things to be seized.

15. No person shall be imprisoned for debt in any civil action, on mesne or final process, unless in cases of fraud.

16. All courts shall be open, and every person, for an injury done him in his land, goods, person, or reputation, shall have remedy by due course of law; and justice administered without denial or delay.

17. No hereditary emoluments, honors, or privileges, shall ever be granted or conferred by this State.

18. No power of suspending laws shall ever be exercised, except by the General Assembly.

19. Private property shall ever be held inviolate, but subservient to the public welfare. When taken in time of war or other public exigency, imperatively requiring its immediate seizure or for the purpose of making or repairing roads, which shall be open to the public, without charge, a compensation shall be made to the owner, in money; and in all other cases, where private property shall be taken for public use, a compensation therefor shall be first made in money, or first secured by a deposit of money; and such compensation shall be assessed by a jury, without deduction for benefits to any property of the owner.

20. This enumeration of rights shall not be construed to impair or deny others retained by the people; and all powers, not herein delegated, remain with the people.

## ARTICLE II.—*Legislative.*

SEC. 1. The Legislative power of this State shall be vested in a General Assembly, which shall consist of a Senate, and House of Representatives.



2. Senators and Representatives shall be elected biennially, by the electors in the respective counties or districts, on the second Tuesday of October; their term of office shall commence on the first day of January next thereafter, and continue two years.

3. Senators and Representatives shall have resided in their respective counties, or districts, one year next preceeding their election, unless they shall have been absent on the public business of the United States, or of this State.

4. No person holding office under the authority of the United States, or any lucrative office under the authority of this State, shall be eligible to, or have a seat in, the General Assembly; but this provision shall not extend to township officers, justices of the peace, notaries public, or officers of the militia.

5. No person hereafter convicted of an embezzlement of the public funds, shall hold any office in this State; nor shall any person, holding public money for disbursement, or otherwise, have a seat in the General Assembly, until he shall have accounted for, and paid such money into the treasury.

6. Each house shall be judge of the election, returns, and qualifications, of its own members; a majority of all the members elected to each house, shall be a quorum to do business; but, a less number may adjourn from day to day, and compel the attendance of absent members, in such manner, and under such penalties, as shall be prescribed by law.

7. The mode of organizing the House of Representatives, at the commencement of each regular session, shall be prescribed by law.

8. Each house, execept as otherwise provided in this constitution, shall choose its own officers, may determine its own rules of proceeding, punish its members for disorderly conduct; and, with the concurrence of two-thirds, expel a member, but not the second time for the same cause; and, shall have all other powers, necessary to provide for its safety, and the undisturbed transaction of its business.

9. Each house shall keep a correet journal of its proceedings, which shall be published. At the desire of any two members, the yeas and nays shall be entered upon the journal; and, on the passage of every bill, in either house, the vote shall be taken by yeas and nays, and entered upon the journal; and no law shall be passed, in either house, without the concurrence of a majority of all the members elected thereto.

10. Any member of either house shall have the right to protest against any act, or resolution thereof; and such protest, and the reasons therefor, shall, without alteration, commitment, or delay, be entered upon the journal.

11. All vaeaneies which may happen in either house shall, for the unexpired term, be filled by election, as shall be directed by law.

12. Senators and Representatives, during the session of the General Assembly, and in going to, and returning from the same, shall be privileged from arrest, in all cases, except treason, felony, or

breach of the peace ; and for any speech, or debate, in either house, they shall not be questioned elsewhere.

13. The proceedings of both houses shall be public, except in cases which, in the opinion of two-thirds of those present, require secrecy.

14. Neither house shall, without the consent of the other, adjourn for more than two days, Sundays excluded ; nor to any other place than that, in which the two houses shall be in session.

15. Bills may originate in either house ; but may be altered, amended, or rejected in the other.

16. Every bill shall be fully and distinctly read, on three different days, unless, in case of urgency, three-fourths of the house, in which it shall be pending, shall dispense with this rule. No bill shall contain more than one subject, which shall be clearly expressed in its title ; and no law shall be revived, or amended, unless the new act contain the entire act revived, or the section or sections amended ; and the section, or sections, so amended, shall be repealed.

17. The presiding officer of each house shall sign, publicly in the presence of the house over which he presides, while the same is in session, and capable of transacting business, all bills and joint resolutions passed by the General Assembly.

18. The style of the laws of this State shall be, "*Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Ohio.*"

19. No Senator or Representative shall, during the term for which he shall have been elected, or for one year thereafter, be appointed to any civil office under this State, which shall be created or the emoluments of which, shall have been increased during the term for which he shall have been elected.

20. The General Assembly, in cases not provided for in this constitution, shall fix the term of office and the compensation of all officers ; but no change therein shall affect the salary of any officer during his existing term, unless the office be abolished.

21. The General Assembly shall determine, by law, before what authority, and in what manner, the trial of contested elections shall be conducted.

22. No money shall be drawn from the treasury, except in pursuance of a specific appropriation, made by law ; and no appropriation shall be made for a longer period than two years.

23. The House of Representatives shall have the sole power of impeachment, but a majority of the members elected must concur therein. Impeachments shall be tried by the Senate ; and the Senators, when sitting for that purpose, shall be upon oath or affirmation to do justice according to law and evidence. No person shall be convicted, without the concurrence of two-thirds of the Senators.

24. The Governor, Judges, and all State officers, may be impeached for any misdemeanor in office ; but judgment shall not extend further than removal from office, and disqualification to hold any office, under the authority of this State. The party impeached,



whether convicted or not, shall be liable to indictment, trial, and judgment, according to law.

25. All regular sessions of the General Assembly shall commence on the first Monday of January, biennially. The first session, under this constitution, shall commence on the first Monday of January, one thousand eight hundred and fifty two.

26. All laws, of a general nature, shall have a uniform operation throughout the State; nor, shall any act, except such as relates to public schools, be passed, to take effect upon the approval of any other authority than the General Assembly, except, as otherwise provided in this constitution.

27. The election and appointment of all officers, and the filling of all vacancies, not otherwise provided for by this constitution, or the constitution of the United States, shall be made in such manner as may be directed by law; but no appointing power shall be exercised by the General Assembly, except as prescribed in this constitution, and in the election of United States Senators; and in these cases, the vote shall be taken "*viva voce*."

28. The General Assembly shall have no power to pass but may, by general laws, authorize courts to carry into effect, upon such terms as shall be just and equitable, the manifest intention of parties, and officers, by curing omissions, defects, and errors, in instruments and proceedings, arising out of their want of conformity with the laws of this State.

29. No extra compensation shall be made to any officer, public agent, or contractor, after the service shall have been rendered, or the contract entered into; nor, shall any money be paid, on any claim, the subject matter of which shall not have been provided for by pre-existing law, unless such compensation, or claim, be allowed by two-thirds of the members elected to each branch of the General Assembly.

30. No new county shall contain less than four hundred square miles of territory, nor, shall any county be reduced below that amount; and all laws creating new counties, changing county lines, or removing county seats, shall, before taking effect, be submitted to the electors of the several counties to be affected thereby, at the next general election after the passage thereof, and be adopted by a majority of all the electors voting at such election, in each of said counties; but any county now or hereafter containing one hundred thousand inhabitants, may be divided, whenever a majority of the voters, residing in each of the proposed divisions, shall approve of the law passed for that purpose; but, no town or city within the same, shall be divided, nor, shall either of the divisions contain less than twenty thousand inhabitants.

31. The members and officers of the General Assembly shall receive a fixed compensation, to be prescribed by law, and no other allowance or perquisites, either in the payment of postage or other-

wise; and no change in their compensation shall take effect during their term of office.

32. The General Assembly shall grant no divorce, nor, exercise any judicial power, not herein expressly conferred.

### ARTICLE III.—*Executive.*

SEC. 1. The Executive Department shall consist of a governor, lieutenant governor, secretary of state, auditor, treasurer, and an attorney general, who shall be chosen by the electors of the State, on the second Tuesday of October, and at the places of voting for members of the General Assembly.

2. The governor, lieutenant governor, secretary of state, treasurer, and attorney general shall hold their offices for two years; and the auditor for four years. Their terms of office shall commence on the second Monday of January next after their election, and continue until their successors are elected and qualified.

3. The returns of every election for the officers, named in the foregoing section, shall be sealed up and transmitted to the seat of government, by the returning officers, directed to the President of the Senate, who, during the first week of the session, shall open and publish them, and declare the result, in the presence of a majority of the members of each house of the General Assembly. The person having the highest number of votes shall be declared duly elected; but if any two or more shall be highest, and equal in votes, for the same office, one of them shall be chosen by the joint vote of both houses.

4. Should there be no session of the General Assembly in January next after an election for any of the officers aforesaid, the returns of such election shall be made to the secretary of state, and opened, and the result declared by the Governor, in such manner as may be provided by law.

5. The supreme executive power of this State shall be vested in the Governor.

6. He may require information, in writing, from the officers in the executive department, upon any subject relating to the duties of their respective offices; and shall see that the laws are faithfully executed.

7. He shall communicate at every session, by message, to the General Assembly, the condition of the State, and recommend such measures as he shall deem expedient.

8. He may, on extraordinary occasions, convene the General Assembly by proclamation, and shall state to both houses, when assembled, the purpose for which they have been convened.

9. In case of disagreement between the two houses, in respect to the time of adjournment, he shall have power to adjourn the General Assembly to such time as he may think proper, but not beyond the regular meetings thereof.

10. He shall be commander-in-chief of the military and naval



forces of the State, except when they shall be called into the service of the United States.

11. He shall have power, after conviction, to grant reprieves, commutations, and pardons, for all crimes and offences, except treason and cases of impeachment, upon such conditions as he may think proper; subject, however, to such regulations, as to the manner of applying for pardons, as may be prescribed by law. Upon conviction for treason, he may suspend the execution of the sentence, and report the case to the General Assembly, at its next meeting, when the General Assembly shall either pardon, commute the sentence, direct its execution, or grant a further reprieve. He shall communicate to the General Assembly, at every regular session, each case of reprieve, commutation, or pardon granted, stating the name and crime of the convict, the sentence, its date, and the date of the commutation, pardon, or reprieve, with his reasons therefor.

12. There shall be a seal of the State, which shall be kept by the Governor, and used by him officially; and shall be called "The Great Seal of the State of Ohio."

13. All grants and commissions shall be issued in the name, and by the authority, of the State of Ohio; sealed with the Great Seal; signed by the Governor, and countersigned by the Secretary of State.

14. No member of Congress, or other person holding office under the authority of this State, or of the United States, shall execute the office of Governor, except as herein provided.

15. In case of the death, impeachment, resignation, removal, or other disability of the Governor, the powers and duties of the office, for the residue of the term, or until he shall be acquitted, or the disability removed, shall devolve upon the Lieutenant Governor.

16. The Lieutenant Governor shall be President of the Senate, but shall vote only when the Senate is equally divided; and in case of his absence, or impeachment, or when he shall exercise the office of Governor, the Senate shall choose a President *pro tempore*.

17. If the Lieutenant Governor, while executing the office of Governor, shall be impeached, displaced, resign or die, or otherwise become incapable of performing the duties of the office, the President of the Senate shall act as Governor, until the vacancy is filled, or the disability removed; and if the President of the Senate, for any of the above causes, shall be rendered incapable of performing the duties pertaining to the office of Governor, the same shall devolve upon the Speaker of the House of Representatives.

18. Should the office of auditor, treasurer, secretary, or attorney general, become vacant, for any of the causes specified in the fifteenth section of this article, the Governor shall fill the vacancy until the disability is removed, or a successor elected and qualified. Every such vacancy shall be filled by election, at the first general election that occurs more than thirty days after it shall have happened; and the person chosen shall hold the office for the full term fixed in the second section of this article.

19. The officers mentioned in this article, shall, at stated times, receive, for their services, a compensation to be established by law, which shall neither be increased nor diminished during the period for which they shall have been elected.

20. The officers of the executive department, and of the public State Institutions, shall, at least five days preceding each regular session of the General Assembly, severally report to the Governor, who shall transmit such reports, with his message, to the General Assembly.

#### ARTICLE IV.—*Judicial.*

SEC. 1. The judicial power of the State shall be vested in a supreme court, in district courts, courts of common pleas, courts of probate, justices of the peace, and in such other courts, inferior to the supreme court, in one or more counties, as the General Assembly, may from time to time establish.

2. The supreme court shall consist of five judges, a majority of whom shall be necessary to form a quorum, or to pronounce a decision. It shall have original jurisdiction in quo warranto, mandamus, habeas corpus, and procedendo, and such appellate jurisdiction as may be provided by law. It shall hold at least one term in each year, at the seat of government, and such other terms, at the seat of government, or elsewhere, as may be provided by law. The Judges of the supreme court shall be elected, by the electors of the State at large.

3. The State shall be divided into nine common pleas districts, of which the county of Hamilton shall constitute one, of compact territory, and bounded by county lines; and each of said districts, consisting of three or more counties, shall be sub-divided into three parts, of compact territory, bounded by county lines, and as nearly equal in population as practicable; in each of which, one Judge of the court of common pleas for said district, and residing therein, shall be elected by the electors of said sub-division. Courts of common pleas shall be held, by one or more of these Judges, in every county in the district, as often as may be provided by law; and more than one court, or sitting thereof, may be held at the same time in each district.

4. The jurisdiction of the courts of common pleas, and of the Judges thereof, shall be fixed by law.

5. District courts shall be composed of the Judges of the court of common pleas of the respective districts, and one of the Judges of the supreme court, any three of whom shall be a quorum, and shall be held in each county therein, at least once in each year; but, if it shall be found inexpedient to hold such court annually, in each county, of any district, the General Assembly may, for such district, provide that said court shall hold at least three annual sessions therein, in not less than three places: Provided, that the General Assembly



may, by law, authorize the Judges of each district to fix the times of holding the courts therein.

6. The district court shall have like original jurisdiction with the supreme court, and such appellate jurisdiction as may be provided by law.

7. There shall be established in each county, a Probate court, which shall be a court of record, open at all times, and holden by one Judge, elected by the voters of the county, who shall hold his office for the term of three years, and shall receive such compensation, payable out of the county treasury, or by fees, or both, as shall be provided by law.

8. The Probate court shall have jurisdiction in probate and testamentary matters, the appointment of administrators and guardians, the settlement of the accounts of executors, administrators and guardians, and such jurisdiction in habeas corpus, the issuing of marriage licences, and for the sale of land by executors, administrators and guardians, and such other jurisdiction, in any county, or counties, as may be provided by law.

9. A competent number of justices of the peace shall be elected, by the electors, in each township in the several counties. Their term of office shall be three years, and their powers and duties shall be regulated by law.

10. All Judges, other than those provided for in this constitution, shall be elected by the electors of the judicial district for which they may be created, but not for a longer term of office than five years.

11. The Judges of the Supreme Court shall, immediately after the first election under this constitution, be classified by lot, so that one shall hold for the term of one year, one for two years, one for three years, one for four years, and one for five years; and, at all subsequent elections, the term of each of said Judges shall be for five years.

12. The Judges of the courts of common pleas shall, while in office, reside in the district for which they are elected: and their term of office shall be for five years.

13. In case the office of any Judge shall become vacant, before the expiration of the regular term for which he was elected, the vacancy shall be filled by appointment by the Governor, until a successor is elected and qualified; and such successor shall be elected for the unexpired term, at the first annual election that occurs more than thirty days after the vacancy shall have happened.

14. The Judges of the supreme court, and of the court of common pleas, shall, at stated times, receive, for their services, such compensation as may be provided by law, which shall not be diminished, or increased, during their term of office; but they shall receive no fees or perquisites, nor hold any other office of profit or trust, under the authority of this State, or the United States. All votes for either of them, for any elective office, except a judicial office, under the authority of this State, given by the General Assembly, or the people, shall be void.

15. The General Assembly may increase or diminish the number of the Judges of the supreme court, the number of the districts of the court of common pleas, the number of Judges in any district, change the districts, or the subdivisions thereof, or establish other courts, whenever two-thirds of the members elected to each house shall concur therein; but, no such change, addition, or diminution, shall vacate the office of any Judge.

16. There shall be elected in each county, by the electors thereof, one clerk of the court of common pleas, who shall hold his office for the term of three years, and until his successor shall be elected and qualified. He shall, by virtue of his office, be clerk of all other courts of record held therein; but, the General Assembly may provide, by law, for the election of a clerk, with a like term of office, for each or any other of the courts of record, and may authorize the Judge of the Probate court to perform the duties of clerk for his court, under such regulations as may be directed by law. Clerks of Courts shall be removable for such cause, and in such manner, as shall be prescribed by law.

17. Judges may be removed from office, by concurrent resolution of both houses of the General Assembly, if two-thirds of the members, elected to each house, concur therein; but, no such removal shall be made, except upon complaint, the substance of which shall be entered on the journal, nor, until the party charged shall have had notice thereof, and an opportunity to be heard.

18. The several Judges of the supreme court, of the common pleas, and of such other courts as may be created, shall, respectively, have and exercise such power and jurisdiction, at chambers, or otherwise, as may be directed by law.

19. The General Assembly may establish courts of Conciliation, and prescribe their powers and duties; but such courts shall not render final judgment, in any case, except upon submission, by the parties, of the matter in dispute, and their agreement to abide such judgment.

20. The style of all process shall be, "The State of Ohio;" all prosecutions shall be carried on, in the name, and by the authority, of the State of Ohio; and all indictments shall conclude, "against the peace and dignity of the State of Ohio."

#### ARTICLE V.—*Elective Franchise.*

SEC. 1. Every white male citizen of the United States, of the age of twenty-one years, who shall have been a resident of the State one year next preceding the election, and of the county, township, or ward, in which he resides, such time as may be provided by law, shall have the qualifications of an elector, and be entitled to vote at all elections.

2. All elections shall be by ballot.

3. Electors, during their attendance at elections, and in going to,



and returning therefrom, shall be privileged from arrest, in all cases, except treason, felony, and breach of the peace.

4. The General Assembly shall have power to exclude from the privilege of voting, or of being eligible to office, any person convicted of bribery, perjury, or otherwise infamous crime.

5. No person in the Military, Naval, or Marine service of the United States, shall, by being stationed in any garrison, or military, or naval station, within the State, be considered a resident of this State.

6. No idiot, or insane person, shall be entitled to the privileges of an elector.

#### ARTICLE VI.—*Education.*

SEC. 1. The principal of all funds, arising from the sale, or other disposition of lands, or other property, granted or entrusted to this State for educational and religious purposes, shall forever be preserved inviolate, and undiminished; and, the income arising therefrom, shall be faithfully applied to the specific objects of the original grants, or appropriations.

2. The General Assembly shall make such provisions, by taxation, or otherwise, as, with the income arising from the school trust fund, will secure a thorough and efficient system of common schools throughout the State; but, no religious or other sect, or sects, shall ever have any exclusive right to, or control of, any part of the school funds of this State.

#### ARTICLE VII.—*Public Institutions.*

SEC. 1. Institutions for the benefit of the insane, blind, and deaf and dumb, shall always be fostered and supported by the State; and be subject to such regulations as may be prescribed by the General Assembly.

2. The directors of the Penitentiary shall be appointed or elected in such manner as the General Assembly may direct; and the trustees of the benevolent, and other State institutions, now elected by the General Assembly, and of such other State institutions as may be hereafter created, shall be appointed by the Governor, by and with the advice and consent of the Senate; and, upon all nominations made by the Governor, the question shall be taken by yeas and nays, and entered upon the journals of the Senate.

3. The Governor shall have power to fill all vacancies that may occur in the offices aforesaid, until the next session of the General Assembly, and, until a successor to his appointee shall be confirmed and qualified.

#### ARTICLE VIII.—*Public Debt and Public Works.*

SEC. 1. The State may contract debts, to supply casual deficits or failures in revenues, or to meet expenses not otherwise provided for; but the aggregate amount of such debts, direct and contingent,

whether contracted by virtue of one or more acts of the General Assembly, or at different periods of time, shall never exceed seven hundred and fifty thousand dollars; and the money, arising from the creation of such debts, shall be applied to the purpose for which it was obtained, or to repay the debts so contracted, and to no other purpose whatever.

2. In addition to the above limited power, the State may contract debts to repel invasion, suppress insurrection, defend the State in war, or to redeem the present outstanding indebtedness of the State: but the money, arising from the contracting of such debts, shall be applied to the purpose for which it was raised, or to repay such debts, and to no other purpose whatever; and all debts, incurred to redeem the present outstanding indebtedness of the State, shall be so contracted as to be payable by the sinking fund, hereinafter provided for, as the same shall accumulate.

3. Except the debts above specified in sections one and two of this article, no debt whatever shall hereafter be created by, or on behalf of the State.

4. The credit of the State shall not, in any manner, be given or loaned to, or in aid of, any individual association or corporation whatever; nor shall the State ever hereafter become a joint owner, or stockholder, in any company or association, in this State, or elsewhere, formed for any purpose whatever.

5. The State shall never assume the debts of any county, city, town, or township, or of any corporation whatever, unless such debt shall have been created to repel invasion, suppress insurrection, or defend the State in war.

6. The General Assembly shall never authorize any county, city, town, or township, by vote of its citizens, or otherwise, to become a stockholder in any joint stock company, corporation, or association whatever; or to raise money for, or loan its credit to, or in aid of, any such company, corporation, or association.

7. The faith of the State being pledged for the payment of its public debt, in order to provide therefor, there shall be created a sinking fund, which shall be sufficient to pay the accruing interest on such debt, and, annually, to reduce the principal thereof, by a sum not less than one hundred thousand dollars, increased yearly, and each and every year, by compounding, at the rate of six per cent. per annum. The said sinking fund shall consist of the net annual income of the public works and stocks owned by the State, of any other funds or resources that are, or may be, provided by law, and of such further sum, to be raised by taxation, as may be required for the purposes aforesaid.

8. The Auditor of State, Secretary of State, and Attorney General, are hereby created a board of commissioners, to be styled, "The Commissioners of the Sinking Fund."

9. The commissioners of the sinking fund shall, immediately preceding each regular session of the General Assembly, make an esti-



mate of the probable amount of the fund, provided for in the seventh section of this article, from all sources except from taxation, and report the same, together with all their proceedings relative to said fund and the public debt, to the Governor, who shall transmit the same with his regular message, to the General Assembly; and the General Assembly shall make all necessary provision for raising and disbursing said sinking fund, in pursuance of the provisions of this article.

10. It shall be duty of the said Commissioners faithfully to apply said fund, together with all moneys that may be, by the General Assembly, appropriated to that object, to the payment of the interest, as it becomes due, and the redemption of the principal of the public debt of the State, excepting only, the school and trust funds held by the State.

11. The said Commissioners shall, semi-annually, make a full and detailed report of their proceedings to the Governor, who shall immediately cause the same to be published, and shall also communicate the same to the General Assembly, forthwith, if it be in session, and if not, then at its first session after such report shall be made.

12. So long as this State shall have public works, which require superintendence, there shall be a Board of Public Works, to consist of three members, who shall be elected by the people, at the first general election after the adoption of this Constitution, one for the term of one year, one for the term of two years, and one for the term of three years; and one member of said Board shall be elected annually thereafter, who shall hold his office for three years.

13. The powers and duties of said Board of Public Works, and its several members, and their compensation, shall be such as now are, or may be prescribed by law.

#### ARTICLE IX.—*Militia.*

SEC. 1. All white male citizens, residents of this State, being eighteen years of age, and under the age of forty five years, shall be enrolled in the militia, and perform military duty, in such manner, not incompatible with the Constitution and laws of the United States, as may be prescribed by law.

2. Majors General, Brigadiers General, Colonels, Lieutenant Colonels, Majors, Captains, and Subalterns, shall be elected by the persons subject to military duty, in their respective districts.

3. The Governor shall appoint the Adjutant General, Quarter Master General, and such other staff officers, as may be provided for by law. Majors General, Brigadiers General, Colonels or Commandants of Regiments, Battalions, or Squadrons, shall, severally, appoint their staff, and Captains shall appoint their non-commissioned officers and musicians.

4. The Governor shall commission all officers of the line and staff, ranking as such; and shall have power to call forth the Militia,

to execute the laws of the State, to suppress insurrection and repel invasion.

5. The General Assembly shall provide, by law, for the protection and safe keeping of the public arms.

#### ARTICLE X.—*County and Township Organizations.*

SEC. 1. The General Assembly shall provide, by law, for the election of such county and township officers as may be necessary.

2. County officers shall be elected on the second Tuesday of October, until otherwise directed by law, by the qualified electors of each county, in such manner, and for such term, not exceeding three years, as may be provided by law.

3. No person shall be eligible to the office of Sheriff, or County Treasurer, for more than four years, in any period of six years.

4. Township officers shall be elected on the first Monday of April, annually, by the qualified electors of their respective townships, and shall hold their offices for one year, from the Monday next succeeding their election, and until their successors are qualified.

5. No money shall be drawn from any county or township treasury, except by authority of law.

6. Justices of the peace, and county and township officers, may be removed, in such manner and for such cause, as shall be prescribed by law.

7. The Commissioners of Counties, the trustees of Townships, and similar boards, shall have such power of local taxation, for police purposes, as may be prescribed by law.

#### ARTICLE XI.—*Apportionment.*

SEC. 1. The apportionment of this State for members of the General Assembly, shall be made every ten years, after the year one thousand eight hundred and fifty one, in the following manner: The whole population of the State, as ascertained by the federal census, or in such other mode as the General Assembly may direct, shall be divided by the number "One hundred," and the quotient shall be the ratio of representation in the House of Representatives, for ten years next succeeding such apportionment.

2. Every county, having a population equal to one half of said ratio, shall be entitled to one representative; every county, containing said ratio, and three-fourths over, shall be entitled to two Representatives; every county, containing three times said ratio, shall be entitled to three Representatives: and so on, requiring after the first two, an entire ratio for each additional Representative.

3. When any county shall have a fraction above the ratio, so large, that being multiplied by five, the result will be equal to one or more ratios, additional Representatives shall be apportioned for such ratios, among the several sessions of the decennial period, in the following manner: If there be only one ratio, a Representative shall be allotted to the fifth session of the decennial period; if there



are two ratios, a Representative shall be allotted to the fourth and third sessions, respectively; if three, to the third, second, and first sessions, respectively; if four, to the fourth, third, second, and first sessions, respectively.

4. Any county, forming with another county or counties, a Representative district, during one decennial period, if it have acquired sufficient population at the next decennial period, shall be entitled to a separate representation, if there shall be left, in the district from which it shall have been separated, a population sufficient for a Representative; but no such change shall be made, except at the regular decennial period for the apportionment of Representatives.

5. If, in fixing any subsequent ratio, a county, previously entitled to a separate representation, shall have less than the number required by the new ratio for a Representative, such county shall be attached to the county adjoining it, having the least number of inhabitants; and the representation of the district, so formed, shall be determined as herein provided.

6. The ratio for a Senator shall, forever hereafter, be ascertained, by dividing the whole population of the State, by the number thirty-five.

7. The State is hereby divided into thirty-three Senatorial districts, as follows: the county of Hamilton shall constitute the first Senatorial district; the counties of Butler and Warren, the second; Montgomery and Preble, the third; Clermont and Brown, the fourth; Greene, Clinton and Fayette, the fifth; Ross and Highland, the sixth; Adams, Pike, Scioto and Jackson, the seventh; Lawrence, Gallia, Meigs and Vinton, the eighth; Athens, Hocking and Fairfield, the ninth; Franklin and Pickaway, the tenth; Clark, Champaign and Madison, the eleventh; Miami, Darke and Shelby, the twelfth; Logan, Union, Marion and Hardin, the thirteenth; Washington and Morgan, the fourteenth; Muskingum and Perry, the fifteenth; Delaware and Licking, the sixteenth; Knox and Morrow, the seventeenth; Coshocton and Tuscarawas, the eighteenth; Guernsey and Monroe, the nineteenth; Belmont and Harrison, the twentieth; Carroll and Stark, the twenty-first; Jefferson and Columbiana, the twenty-second; Trumbull and Mahoning, the twenty-third; Ashtabula, Lake and Geauga, the twenty-fourth; Cuyahoga, the twenty-fifth; Portage and Summit, the twenty-sixth; Medina and Lorain, the twenty-seventh; Wayne and Holmes, the twenty-eighth; Ashland and Richland, the twenty-ninth; Huron, Erie, Sandusky and Ottawa, the thirtieth; Seneca, Crawford and Wyandot, the thirty-first; Mercer, Auglaize, Allen, Vanwert, Paulding, Defiance and Williams, the thirty-second; and Hancock, Wood, Lucas, Fulton, Henry and Putnam, the thirty-third. For the first decennial period, after the adoption of this constitution, each of said districts shall be entitled to one Senator, except the first district, which shall be entitled to three Senators.

8. The same rules shall be applied, in apportioning the fractions

of Senatorial districts, and in annexing districts, which may hereafter have less than three-fourths of a Senatorial ratio, as are applied to Representative districts.

9. Any county forming part of a Senatorial district, having acquired a population equal to a full senatorial ratio, shall be made a separate Senatorial district, at any regular decennial apportionment, if a full Senatorial ratio shall be left in the district from which it shall be taken.

10. For the first ten years, after the year one thousand eight hundred and fifty-one, the apportionment of Representatives shall be as provided in the schedule, and no change shall ever be made in the principles of representation, as herein established, or in the Senatorial districts, except as above provided. All territory, belonging to a county at the time of any apportionment, shall, as to the right of representation and suffrage, remain an integral part thereof, during the decennial period.

11. The Governor, Auditor, and Secretary of State, or any two of them, shall, at least six months prior to the October election, in the year one thousand eight hundred and sixty-one, and, at each decennial period thereafter, ascertain and determine the ratio of representation, according to the decennial census, the number of Representatives and Senators each county or district shall be entitled to elect, and for what years, within the next ensuing ten years, and the Governor shall cause the same to be published, in such manner as shall be directed by law.

#### JUDICIAL APPORTIONMENT.

SEC. 12. For Judicial purposes, the State shall be apportioned as follows :

The county of Hamilton, shall constitute the first district, which shall not be subdivided ; and the Judges therein, may hold separate courts, or separate sittings of the same court, at the same time.

The counties of Butler, Preble and Darke, shall constitute the first subdivision, Montgomery, Miami and Champaign, the second, and Warren, Clinton, Greene, and Clark, the third subdivision, of the second district ; and, together, shall form such district.

The counties of Shelby, Auglaize, Allen, Hardin, Logan, Union and Marion shall constitute the first subdivision, Mercer, Van Wert, Putnam, Paulding, Defiance, Williams, Henry and Fulton, the second, and Wood, Seneca, Hancock, Wyandot and Crawford, the third subdivision, of the third district ; and, together, shall form such district.

The counties of Lucas, Ottawa, Sandusky, Erie and Huron, shall constitute the first subdivision, Lorain, Medina and Summit, the second, and the county of Cuyahoga, the third subdivision, of the fourth district ; and, together, shall form such district.

The counties of Clermont, Brown and Adams, shall constitute the first subdivision, Highland, Ross and Fayette, the second ; and Pick-



away, Franklin and Madison, the third subdivision, of the fifth district; and, together, shall form such district.

The counties of Licking, Knox and Delaware, shall constitute the first subdivision, Morrow, Richland and Ashland, the second, and Wayne, Holmes and Coshocton, the third subdivision, of the sixth district; and, together, shall form such district.

The counties of Fairfield, Perry and Hocking, shall constitute the first subdivision, Jackson, Vinton, Pike, Scioto and Lawrence, the second, and Gallia, Meigs, Athens and Washington, the third subdivision, of the seventh district; and, together, shall form such district.

The counties of Muskingum and Morgan, shall constitute the first subdivision, Guernsey, Belmont and Monroe, the second, and Jefferson, Harrison and Tuscarawas, the third subdivision, of the eighth district; and, together, shall form such district.

The counties of Stark, Carroll and Columbiana, shall constitute the first subdivision, Trumbull, Portage and Mahoning, the second, and Geauga, Lake and Ashtabula, the third subdivision, of the ninth district; and, together, shall form such district.

13. The General Assembly shall attach any new counties, that may hereafter be erected, to such districts, or subdivisions thereof, as shall be most convenient.

## ARTICLE XII.—*Finance and Taxation.*

SEC. 1. The levying of taxes, by the poll, is grievous and oppressive; therefore, the General Assembly shall never levy a poll tax, for county or State purposes.

2. Laws shall be passed, taxing, by a uniform rule, all moneys, credits, investments in bonds, stocks, joint stock companies, or otherwise; and also all real and personal property, according to its true value in money; but burying grounds, public school houses, houses used exclusively for public worship, institutions of purely public charity, public property used exclusively for any public purpose; and personal property, to an amount not exceeding in value two hundred dollars, for each individual, may, by general laws, be exempted from taxation: but, all such laws shall be subject to alteration or repeal; and the value of all property, so exempted, shall, from time to time, be ascertained and published, as may be directed by law.

3. The General Assembly shall provide, by law, for taxing the notes and bills discounted or purchased, moneys loaned, and all other property, effects, or dues of every description, (without deduction,) of all Banks, now existing, or hereafter created, and of all bankers, so that all property employed in banking, shall always bear a burden of taxation, equal to that imposed on the property of individuals.

4. The General Assembly shall provide for raising revenue, sufficient to defray the expenses of the State, for each year, and also a sufficient sum to pay the interest on the State debt.

5. No tax shall be levied, except in pursuance of law; and every

law imposing a tax, shall state, distinctly, the object of the same, to which only, it shall be applied.

6. The State shall never contract any debt for purposes of internal improvement.

### ARTICLE XIII.—*Corporations.*

SEC. 1. The General Assembly shall pass no special act conferring corporate powers.

2. Corporations may be formed under general laws; but all such laws may, from time to time, be altered, or repealed.

3. Dues from corporations shall be secured, by such individual liability of the stockholders, and other means, as may be prescribed by law; but, in all cases, each stockholder shall be liable, over and above the stock by him or her owned, and any amount unpaid thereon, to a further sum, at least equal in amount to such stock.

4. The property of corporations, now existing or hereafter created, shall forever be subject to taxation, the same as the property of individuals.

5. No right of way shall be appropriated to the use of any corporation, until full compensation therefor be first made in money, or first secured by a deposit of money, to the owner, irrespective of any benefit from any improvement proposed by such corporation: which compensation shall be ascertained by a jury of twelve men, in a court of record, as shall be prescribed by law.

6. The General Assembly shall provide for the organization of cities, incorporated villages, by general laws; and restrict their power of taxation, assessment, borrowing money, contracting debts and loaning their credit, so as to prevent the abuse of such power.

7. No act of the General Assembly, authorizing associations with banking powers, shall take effect; until it shall be submitted to the people, at the general election next succeeding the passage thereof, and be approved by a majority of all the electors, voting at such election.

### ARTICLE XIV.—*Jurisprudence.*

SEC. 1. The General Assembly, at its first session after the adoption of this Constitution, shall provide for the appointment of three Commissioners, and prescribe their tenure of office, compensation, and the mode of filling vacancies in said commission.

2. The said commissioners shall revise, reform, simplify and abridge, the practice, pleadings, forms, and proceedings of the Courts of record of this State; and, as far as practicable and expedient, shall provide for the abolition of the distinct forms of action at law, now in use, and for the administration of justice by a uniform mode of proceeding, without reference to any distinction between law and equity.

3. The proceedings of the Commissioners shall, from time to time,



be reported to the General Assembly, and be subject to the action of that body.

#### ARTICLE XV.—*Miscellaneous.*

SEC. 1. Columbus shall be the seat of government, until otherwise directed by law.

2. The printing of the laws, journals, bills, legislative documents and papers for each branch of the General Assembly, with the printing required for the Executive and other departments of State, shall be let, on contract, to the lowest responsible bidder, by such Executive officers, and in such manner, as shall be prescribed by law.

3. An accurate and detailed statement of the receipts and expenditures of the public money, the several amounts paid, to whom, and on what account, shall, from time to time, be published, as shall be prescribed by law.

4. No person shall be elected or appointed to any office in this State, unless he possess the qualifications of an elector.

5. No person who shall hereafter fight a duel, assist in the same as second, or send, accept, or knowingly carry, a challenge therefor, shall hold any office in this State.

6. Lotteries, and the sale of lottery tickets, for any purpose whatever, shall forever be prohibited in this State.

7. Every person chosen or appointed to any office under this State, before entering upon the discharge of its duties, shall take an oath or affirmation, to support the Constitution of the United States, and of this State, and also an oath of office.

8. There may be established, in the Secretary of State's Office, a bureau of statistics, under such regulations as may be prescribed by law.

#### ARTICLE XVI.—*Amendments.*

SEC. 1. Either branch of the General Assembly may propose amendments to this constitution; and, if the same shall be agreed to, by three-fifths of the members elected to each house, such proposed amendments shall be entered on the journals, with the yeas and nays, and shall be published in at least one newspaper in each county of the State, where a newspaper is published, for six months preceding the next election for Senators and Representatives, at which time the same shall be submitted to the electors, for their approval or rejection; and if a majority of the electors, voting at such election, shall adopt such amendments, the same shall become a part of the Constitution. When more than one amendment shall be submitted at the same time, they shall be so submitted, as to enable the electors to vote on each amendment, separately.

2. Whenever two-thirds of the members elected to each branch of the General Assembly, shall think it necessary to call a Convention, to revise, amend, or change this Constitution, they shall recommend to the electors to vote, at the next election for members of the

General Assembly, for or against a Convention; and if a majority of all the electors, voting at said election, shall have voted for a Convention, the General Assembly shall, at their next session, provide, by law, for calling the same. The Convention shall consist of as many members as the House of Representatives, who shall be chosen in the same manner, and shall meet within three months after their election, for the purpose aforesaid.

3. At the general election, to be held in the year one thousand eight hundred and seventy-one, and in each twentieth year thereafter, the question: "Shall there be a Convention to revise, alter, or amend the Constitution," shall be submitted to the electors of the State; and, in case a majority of all the electors, voting at such election, shall decide in favor of a Convention, the General Assembly, at its next session, shall provide, by law, for the election of delegates, and the assembling of such Convention, as is provided in the preceding section; but no amendment of this Constitution, agreed upon by any Convention, assembled in pursuance of this article, shall take effect, until the same shall have been submitted to the electors of the State, and adopted by a majority of those voting thereon.

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## SCHEDULE.

SEC. 1. All laws of this State, in force on the first day of September, one thousand eight hundred and fifty-one, not inconsistent with this constitution, shall continue in force, until amended or repealed.

2. The first election for members of the General Assembly, under this constitution, shall be held on the second Tuesday of October, one thousand eight hundred and fifty-one.

3. The first election for Governor, Lieutenant Governor, Auditor, Treasurer, and Secretary of State, and Attorney General, shall be held on the second Tuesday of October, one thousand eight hundred and fifty-one. The persons, holding said offices on the first day of September, one thousand eight hundred and fifty-one, shall continue therein, until the second Monday of January, one thousand eight hundred and fifty-two.

4. The first election for Judges of the supreme court, courts of common pleas, and probate courts, and Clerks of the courts of common pleas, shall be held on the second Tuesday of October, one thousand eight hundred and fifty-one, and the official term of said Judges and clerks, so elected, shall commence on the second Monday of February, one thousand eight hundred and fifty-two. Judges and clerks of the courts of common pleas and supreme court, in office on the first day of September, one thousand eight hundred and fifty-one, shall continue in office with their present powers and duties, until the second Monday of February, one thousand eight hundred and fifty-two. No suit or proceeding, pending in any of the courts of this State, shall be affected by the adoption of this constitution.



5. The Register and Receiver of the land office, Directors of the Penitentiary, Directors of the Benevolent Institutions of the State, the State Librarian, and all other officers, not otherwise provided for in this Constitution, in office on the first day of September, one thousand eight hundred and fifty-one, shall continue in office, until their terms expire, respectively, unless the General Assembly shall otherwise provide.

6. The Superior and Commercial Courts of Cincinnati, and the Superior Court of Cleveland, shall remain, until otherwise provided by law, with their present powers and jurisdiction; and the Judges and clerks of said courts, in office on the first day of September, one thousand eight hundred and fifty-one, shall continue in office, until the expiration of their terms of office, respectively, or, until otherwise provided by law; but neither of said courts shall continue after the second Monday of February, one thousand eight hundred and fifty-three; and no suit shall be commenced in said two first mentioned courts, after the second Monday of February, one thousand eight hundred and fifty-two, nor in said last mentioned court, after the second Monday in August, one thousand eight hundred and fifty-two; and all business in either of said courts, not disposed of within the time limited for their continuance as aforesaid, shall be transferred to the court of common pleas.

7. All County and Township officers and Justices of the peace, in office on the first day of September, one thousand eight hundred and fifty-one, shall continue in office until their terms expire, respectively.

8. Vacancies in office, occurring after the first day of September, one thousand eight hundred and fifty-one, shall be filled, as is now prescribed by law, and until officers are elected or appointed, and qualified under this constitution.

9. This Constitution shall take effect, on the first day of September, one thousand eight hundred and fifty-one.

10. All officers shall continue in office, until their successors shall be chosen and qualified.

11. Suits pending in the Supreme Court in Bank, shall be transferred to the Supreme Court, provided for in this Constitution, and be proceeded in according to law.

12. The district courts shall, in their respective counties, be the successors of the present Supreme Court; and all suits, prosecutions, judgments, records and proceedings, pending and remaining in said Supreme Court, in the several counties of any district, shall be transferred to the respective district courts of such counties, and be proceeded in, as though no change had been made in said Supreme Court.

13. The said courts of common pleas, shall be the successors of the present courts of common pleas in the several counties, except as to probate jurisdiction; and all suits, prosecutions, proceedings, records and judgments, pending or being in said last mentioned courts, except as aforesaid, shall be transferred to the courts of common pleas created by this Constitution, and proceeded in, as though the same had been therein instituted.

14. The Probate courts provided for in this Constitution, as to all matters within the jurisdiction conferred upon said courts, shall be the successors, in the several counties, of the present courts of common pleas; and the records, files and papers, business and proceedings, appertaining to said jurisdiction, shall be transferred to said courts of probate, and be there proceeded in, according to law.

15. Until otherwise provided by law, elections for Judges and Clerks shall be held, and the poll books returned, as is provided for Governor, and the abstract therefrom, certified to the Secretary of State, shall be by him opened, in the presence of the Governor, who shall declare the result, and issue commissions to the persons elected.

16. Where two or more counties are joined in a Senatorial, Representative, or Judicial district, the returns of elections shall be sent to the county, having the largest population.

17. The foregoing constitution shall be submitted to the electors of the State, at an election to be held on the third Tuesday of June, one thousand eight hundred and fifty-one, in the several election districts of this State. The ballots at such election shall be written or printed as follows: Those in favor of the constitution,

"New Constitution, Yes;" those against the constitution, "New Constitution, No." The polls at said election shall be opened between the hours of eight and ten o'clock A. M., and closed at six o'clock P. M.; and the said election shall be conducted, and the returns thereof made and certified, to the Secretary of State, as provided by law for annual elections of State and County officers. Within twenty days after such election, the Secretary of State shall open the returns thereof, in the presence of the Governor; and, if it shall appear that a majority of all the votes, cast at such election, are in favor of the constitution, the Governor shall issue his proclamation, stating that fact, and said constitution shall be the constitution of the State of Ohio, and not otherwise.

18. At the time when the votes of the electors shall be taken for the adoption or rejection of this constitution, the additional section, in the words following, to wit: "No license to traffic in intoxicating liquors shall hereafter be granted in this State; but the General Assembly may, by law, provide against evils resulting therefrom," shall be separately submitted to the electors for adoption or rejection, in form following, to wit: A separate ballot may be given by every elector and deposited in a separate box. Upon the ballots given for said separate amendment shall be written or printed, or partly written and partly printed, the words: "License to sell intoxicating liquors, Yes;" and upon the ballots given against said amendment, in like manner, the words: "License to sell intoxicating liquors, No." If, at the said election, a majority of all the votes given for and against said amendment, shall contain the words: "License to sell intoxicating liquors, No," then the said amendment shall be a separate section of article fifteen of the constitution.

19. The apportionment for the House of Representatives, during the first decennial period under this constitution, shall be as follows:

The counties of Adams, Allen, Athens, Auglaize, Carroll, Champaign, Clark, Clinton, Crawford, Darke, Delaware, Erie, Fayette, Gallia, Geauga, Greene, Hancock, Harrison, Hocking, Holmes, Lake, Lawrence, Logan, Madison, Marion, Meigs, Morrow, Perry, Pickaway, Pike, Preble, Sandusky, Scioto, Shelby and Union, shall, severally, be entitled to one Representative, in each session of the decennial period.

The counties of Franklin, Licking, Montgomery and Stark, shall each be entitled to two Representatives, in each session of the decennial period.

The counties of Ashland, Coshockton, Highland, Huron, Lorain, Mahoning, Medina, Miami, Portage, Seneca, Summit and Warren, shall, severally, be entitled to one Representative, in each session; and one additional Representative, in the fifth session of the decennial period.

The counties of Ashtabula, Brown, Butler, Clermont, Fairfield, Guernsey, Jefferson, Knox, Monroe, Morgan, Richland, Trumbull, Tuscarawas and Washington, shall, severally, be entitled to one Representative, in each session; and two additional Representatives, one in the third, and one in the fourth session, of the decennial period.

The counties of Belmont, Columbiana, Ross and Wayne, shall, severally, be entitled to one Representative, in each session; and three additional Representatives, one in the first, one in the second, and one in the third session, of the decennial period.

The county of Muskingum shall be entitled to two Representatives, in each session; and one additional Representative, in the fifth session of the decennial period.

The county of Cuyahoga shall be entitled to two Representatives, in each session; and two additional Representatives, one in the third, and one in the fourth session, of the decennial period.

The county of Hamilton shall be entitled to seven Representatives, in each session; and four additional Representatives, one in the first, one in the second, one in the third, and one in the fourth session, of the decennial period.

The following counties, until they shall have acquired a sufficient population to entitle them to elect, separately, under the fourth section of the eleventh article, shall form districts in manner following, to wit: The counties of Jackson and Vinton, one district; the counties of Lucas and Fulton, one district; the counties of Wyandot and Hardin, one district; the counties of Mercer and Van Wert, one district; the counties of Paulding, Defiance and Williams, one district; the counties of Put



nam and Henry, one district ; and the counties of Wood and Ottawa, one district : each of which districts shall be entitled to one Representative, in every session of the decennial period.

Done in Convention, at Cincinnati, the tenth day of March, in the year of our Lord, one thousand eight hundred and fifty-one, and of the Independence of the United States, the seventy-fifth.

WILLIAM MEDILL, *President*.

Attest : WM. H. GILL, *Secretary*.





## INDIANA.



IND.

THIS State was first settled by the French, as early as 1730 ; but at the peace between France and England, in 1763, it came into the hands of England. In 1787, the United States took possession of Vincennes, and erected a fort on the opposite bank of the river, as a defense against the savages. This country suffered much from the Indians during the last war with Great Britain ; but they were defeated by the Americans, under Gen. William H. Harrison, in a bloody battle at Tippacanoë. This State was a part of the North-West Territory until 1800, when it formed a territorial government. It became a State in 1816, and adopted its constitution. The present constitution was adopted in 1851  
Area, 36,000 sq. m. Pop. in 1850, 988,734.

## CONSTITUTION.

### PREAMBLE.

To the end that justice be established, public order maintained, and liberty perpetuated, We, the People of the State of Indiana, grateful to Almighty God for the free exercise of the right to choose our own form of government, do ordain this constitution.

ARTICLE I.—*Bill of Rights.*

SEC. 1. We declare that all men are created equal; that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable rights; that among these are life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness; that all power is inherent in the people; and that all free governments are, and of right ought to be, founded on their authority, and instituted for their peace, safety, and well being. For the advancement of these ends, the people have, at all times, an indefeasible right to alter and reform their government.

2. All men shall be secured in the natural right to worship Almighty God according to the dictates of their own consciences.

3. No law shall, in any case whatever, control the free exercise and enjoyment of religious opinions, or interfere with the rights of conscience.

4. No preference shall be given by law to any creed, religious society, or mode of worship; and no man shall be compelled to attend, erect, or support any place of worship, or to maintain any ministry against his consent.

5. No religious test shall be required as a qualification for any office of trust or profit.

6. No money shall be drawn from the treasury for the benefit of any religious or theological institution.

7. No person shall be rendered incompetent as a witness in consequence of his opinions on matters of religion.

8. The mode of administering an oath or affirmation shall be such as may be most consistent with, and binding upon, the conscience of the person to whom such oath or affirmation may be administered.

9. No law shall be passed restraining the free interchange of thought and opinion, or restricting the right to speak, write, or print freely on any subject whatever; but for the abuse of that right every person shall be responsible.

10. In all prosecutions for libel, the truth of the matters alleged to be libellous may be given in justification.

11. The right of the people to be secure in their persons, houses, papers and effects, against unreasonable search or seizure, shall not be violated; and no warrant shall issue but upon probable cause, supported by oath or affirmation, and particularly describing the place to be searched, and the person or thing to be seized.

12. All courts shall be open; and every man, for injury done to him in his person, property, or reputation, shall have remedy by due course of law. Justice shall be administered freely and without purchase; completely, and without denial; speedily, and without delay.

13. In all criminal prosecutions the accused shall have the right to a public trial by an impartial jury, in the county in which the offence shall have been committed; to be heard by himself and counsel; to demand the nature and cause of the accusation against



him, and to have a copy thereof; to meet the witnesses face to face, and to have compulsory process for obtaining witnesses in his favor.

14. No person shall be put in jeopardy twice for the same offence. No person in any criminal prosecution shall be compelled to testify against himself.

15. No person arrested or confined in jail shall be treated with unnecessary rigor.

16. Excessive bail shall not be required. Excessive fines shall not be imposed. Cruel and unusual punishments shall not be inflicted. All penalties shall be proportioned to the nature of the offence.

17. Offences, other than murder and treason, shall be bailable by sufficient sureties. Murder or treason shall not be bailable when the proof is evident, or the presumption strong.

18. The penal code shall be founded on the principles of reformation, and not of vindictive justice.

19. In all criminal cases whatever the jury shall have the right to determine the law and the facts.

20. In all civil cases, the right of trial by jury shall remain inviolate.

21. No man's particular services shall be demanded without just compensation. No man's property shall be taken by law without just compensation; nor, except in case of the State, without such compensation first assessed and tendered.

22. The privilege of the debtor to enjoy the necessary comforts of life, shall be recognised by wholesome laws, exempting a reasonable amount of property from seizure or sale for the payment of any debt or liability hereafter contracted; and there shall be no imprisonment for debt, except in case of fraud.

23. The General Assembly shall not grant to any citizen, or class of citizens, privileges or immunities, which, upon the same terms, shall not equally belong to all citizens.

24. No ex-post facto law, or law impairing the obligation of contracts, shall ever be passed.

25. No law shall be passed, the taking effect of which shall be made to depend upon any authority, except as provided in this constitution.

26. The operation of the laws shall never be suspended, except by the authority of the General Assembly.

27. The privilege of the writ of habeas corpus shall not be suspended, except in case of rebellion or invasion, and then only if the public safety demand it.

28. Treason against the State shall consist only in levying war against it, and in giving aid and comfort to its enemies.

29. No person shall be convicted of treason except on the testimony of two witnesses to the same overt act, or upon his confession in open court.

30. No conviction shall work corruption of blood, or forfeiture of estate.

31. No law shall restrain any of the inhabitants of the State from assembling together in a peaceable manner to consult for their common good, nor from instructing their representatives, nor from applying to the General Assembly for redress of grievances.

32. The people shall have a right to bear arms for the defence of themselves and the State.

33. The military shall be kept in strict subordination to the civil power.

34. No soldier shall, in time of peace, be quartered in any house without the consent of the owner; nor in time of war but in a manner to be prescribed by law.

35. The General Assembly shall not grant any title of nobility, nor confer hereditary distinctions.

36. Emigration from the State shall not be prohibited.

37. There shall be neither slavery nor involuntary servitude within the State, otherwise than for the punishment of crimes, whereof the party shall have been duly convicted. No indenture of any negro or mulatto, made and executed out of the bounds of the State, shall be valid within the State.

## ARTICLE II.—*Suffrage and Election.*

SEC. 1. All elections shall be free and equal.

2. In all elections, not otherwise provided for by this constitution, every white male citizen of the United States, of the age of twenty-one years and upwards, who shall have resided in the State during the six months immediately preceding such election; and every white male of foreign birth of the age of twenty-one years and upwards, who shall have resided in the United States one year, and shall have resided in this State during the six months immediately preceding such election, and shall have declared his intention to become a citizen of the United States, conformably to the laws of the United States on the subject of naturalization, shall be entitled to vote in the township or precinct where he may reside.

3. No soldier, seaman or marine in the army or navy of the United States, or of their allies, shall be deemed to have acquired a residence in the State, in consequence of having been stationed within the same; nor shall any such soldier, seamen or marine have the right to vote.

4. No person shall be deemed to have lost his residence in the State by reason of his absence, either on business of this State or of the United States.

5. No negro or mulatto shall have the right of suffrage.

6. Every person shall be disqualified from holding office during the term for which he may have been elected, who shall have given or offered a bribe, threat or reward to procure his election.

7. Every person who shall give or accept a challenge to fight a duel,



or who shall knowingly carry to another person such challenge, or who shall agree to go out of the State to fight a duel, shall be ineligible to any office of trust or profit.

8. The General Assembly shall have power to deprive of the right of suffrage, and to render ineligible, any person convicted of an infamous crime.

9. No person holding a lucrative office or appointment under the United States, or under this State, shall be eligible to a seat in the General Assembly; nor shall any person hold more than one lucrative office at the same time, except as in this constitution expressly permitted: Provided, that offices in the militia, to which there is attached no annual salary, and the office of deputy postmaster, where the compensation does not exceed ninety dollars per annum, shall not be deemed lucrative: And provided, also, that counties containing less than one thousand polls, may confer the office of clerk, recorder and auditor, or any two of said offices, upon the same person.

10. No person who may hereafter be a collector or holder of public moneys, shall be eligible to any office of trust or profit until he shall have accounted for, and paid over according to law, all sums for which he may be liable.

11. In all cases in which it is provided that an office shall not be filled by the same person more than a certain number of years continuously, an appointment *pro tempore* shall not be reckoned a part of that term.

12. In all cases, except treason, felony, and breach of the peace, electors shall be free from arrest in going to elections, during their attendance there, and in returning from the same.

13. All elections by the people shall be by ballot; and all elections by the General Assembly, or by either branch thereof, shall be *viva voce*.

14. All general elections shall be held on the second Tuesday in October.

### ARTICLE III.—*Distribution of Powers.*

SEC. 1. The powers of the government are divided into three separate departments, the legislative, the executive, including the administrative and the judicial; and no person charged with official duties under one of these departments shall exercise any of the functions of another, except as in this constitution expressly provided.

### ARTICLE IV.—*Legislative.*

SEC. 1. The legislative authority of the State shall be vested in a General Assembly, which shall consist of a Senate and a House of Representatives. The style of every law shall be: "Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Indiana;" and no law shall be enacted except by bill.

2. The Senate shall not exceed fifty, nor the House of Represent-

atives one hundred members; and they shall be chosen by the electors of the respective counties or districts into which the State may from time to time be divided.

3. Senators shall be elected for the term of four years, and representatives for the term of two years, from the day next after their general election: Provided, however, that the senators elect, at the second meeting of the General Assembly under this constitution, shall be divided by lot into two equal classes, as nearly as may be; and the seats of senators of the first class shall be vacated at the expiration of two years, and of those of the second class at the expiration of four years; so that one half, as nearly as possible, shall be chosen biennially forever thereafter. And in case of increase in the number of senators, they shall be so annexed by lot to one or the other of the two classes, as to keep them as nearly equal as practicable.

4. The General Assembly shall, at its second session after the adoption of this constitution, and every sixth year thereafter, cause an enumeration to be made of all the white male inhabitants over the age of twenty-one years.

5. The number of senators and representatives shall, at the session next following each period of making such enumeration, be fixed by law, and apportioned among the several counties, according to the number of white male inhabitants above twenty-one years of age in each: Provided, that the first and second elections of members of the General Assembly under this constitution shall be according to the apportionment last made by the General Assembly, before the adoption of this constitution.

6. A senatorial or representative district, where more than one county shall constitute a district, shall be composed of contiguous counties; and no county for senatorial apportionment shall ever be divided.

7. No person shall be a senator or a representative who at the time of his election is not a citizen of the United States; nor any one who has not been for two years next preceding his election an inhabitant of this State, and for one year next preceding his election an inhabitant of the county or district whence he may be chosen. Senators shall be at least twenty-five, and representatives at least twenty-one years of age.

8. Senators and representatives, in all cases except treason, felony, and breach of the peace, shall be privileged from arrest during the session of the General Assembly, and in going to and returning from the same; and shall not be subject to any civil process during the session of the General Assembly, nor during the fifteen days next before the commencement thereof. For any speech or debate in either house a member shall not be questioned in any other place.

9. The sessions of the General Assembly shall be held biennially at the capital of the State, commencing on the Thursday next after



the first Monday of January, in the year one thousand eight hundred and fifty-three, and on the same day of every second year thereafter, unless a different day or place shall have been appointed by law. But if in the opinion of the governor the public welfare shall require it, he may at any time, by proclamation, call a special session.

10. Each house when assembled shall choose its own officers (the president of the Senate excepted), judge the elections, qualifications, and returns of its own members, determine its rules of proceeding, and sit upon its own adjournment. But neither house shall, without the consent of the other, adjourn for more than three days, nor to any place other than that in which it may be sitting.

11. Two-thirds of each house shall constitute a quorum to do business; but a smaller number may meet, adjourn from day to day, and compel the attendance of absent members. A quorum being in attendance, if either house fail to effect an organization within the first five days thereafter, the members of the house so failing shall be entitled to no compensation from the end of the said five days until an organization shall have been effected.

12. Each house shall keep a journal of its proceedings, and publish the same. The yeas and nays on any question shall, at the request of any two members, be entered, together with the names of the members demanding the same, on the journal: Provided, that on a motion to adjourn, it shall require one-tenth of the members present to order the yeas and nays.

13. The doors of each house, and of committees of the whole, shall be kept open, except in such cases as in the opinion of either house may require secrecy.

14. Either house may punish its members for disorderly behavior, and may, with the concurrence of two-thirds, expel a member; but not a second time for the same cause.

15. Either house, during its session, may punish by imprisonment any person not a member who shall have been guilty of disrespect to the house, by disorderly or contemptuous behavior in its presence; but such imprisonment shall not at any time exceed twenty-four hours.

16. Each house shall have all powers necessary for a branch of the legislative department of a free and independent State.

17. Bills may originate in either house, but may be amended or rejected in the other, except that bills for raising revenue shall originate in the House of Representatives.

18. Every bill shall be read by sections on three several days in each house, unless, in case of emergency, two-thirds of the house where such bill may be depending shall, by a vote of yeas and nays, deem it expedient to dispense with this rule; but the reading of a bill by sections, on its final passage, shall in no case be dispensed with; and the vote on the passage of every bill or joint resolution shall be taken by yeas and nays.

19. Every act shall embrace but one subject and matters properly connected therewith; which subject shall be expressed in the title. But if any subject shall be embraced in an act which shall not be expressed in the title, such act shall be void only as to so much thereof as shall not be expressed in the title.

20. Every act and joint resolution shall be plainly worded, avoiding as far as practicable the use of technical terms.

21. No act shall ever be revised or amended by mere reference to its title; but the act revised, or section amended, shall be set forth and published at full length.

22. The General Assembly shall not pass local or special laws in any of the following enumerated cases, that is to say:

Regulating the jurisdiction and duties of justices of the peace and of constables;

For the punishment of crimes and misdemeanors;

Regulating the practice in courts of justice;

Providing for changing the venue in civil and criminal cases;

Granting divorces;

Changing the names of persons;

For laying out, opening, and working on highways, and for the election or appointment of supervisors;

Vacating roads, town plats, streets, alleys, and public squares;

Summoning and empanelling grand and petit juries, and providing for their compensation;

Regulating county and township business;

Regulating the election of county and township officers, and their compensation;

For the assessment and collection of taxes for State, county, township, or road purposes;

Providing for supporting common schools, and for the preservation of school funds;

In relation to fees or salaries;

In relation to interest on money;

Providing for opening and conducting elections of State, county, or township officers, and designating the places of voting;

Providing for the sale of real estate belonging to minors or other persons laboring under legal disabilities, by executors, administrators, guardians, or trustees.

23. In all the cases enumerated in the preceding sections, and in all other cases where a general law can be made applicable, all laws shall be general, and of uniform operation throughout the State.

24. Provision may be made by general law for bringing suit against the State as to all liabilities originating after the adoption of this constitution; but no special act authorizing such suit to be brought, or making compensation to any person claiming damages against the State, shall ever be passed.

25. A majority of all the members elected to each house shall be necessary to pass every bill or joint resolution; and all bills and



joint resolutions so passed shall be signed by the presiding officers of the respective houses.

26. Any member of either house shall have the right to protest, and to have his protest, with his reasons for dissent, entered on the journal.

27. Every statute shall be a public law unless otherwise declared in the statute itself.

28. No act shall take effect until the same shall have been published and circulated in the several counties of the State by authority except in case of emergency; which emergency shall be declared in the preamble, or in the body of the law.

29. The members of the General Assembly shall receive for their services a compensation to be fixed by law; but no increase of compensation shall take effect during the session at which such increase may be made. No session of the General Assembly, except the first under this constitution, shall extend beyond the term of sixty-one days, nor any special session beyond the term of forty days.

30. No senator or representative shall, during the term for which he may have been elected, be eligible to any office, the election to which is vested in the General Assembly; nor shall he be appointed to any civil office of profit which shall have been created, or the emoluments of which shall have been increased, during such term; but this latter provision shall not be construed to apply to any office elective by the people.

#### ARTICLE V.—*Executive.*

SEC. 1. The executive power of the State shall be vested in a governor. He shall hold his office during four years, and shall not be eligible more than four years in any period of eight years.

2. There shall be a lieutenant governor, who shall hold his office during four years.

3. The governor and lieutenant governor shall be elected at the times and places of choosing members of the General Assembly.

4. In voting for governor and lieutenant governor, the electors shall designate for whom they vote as governor, and for whom as lieutenant governor. The returns of every election for governor and lieutenant governor shall be sealed up and transmitted to the seat of government, directed to the speaker of the House of Representatives, who shall open and publish them in the presence of both houses of the General Assembly.

5. The person respectively having the highest number of votes for governor and lieutenant governor, shall be elected; but in case two or more persons shall have an equal and the highest number of votes for either office, the General Assembly shall by joint vote forthwith proceed to elect one of the said persons governor or lieutenant governor, as the case may be.

6. Contested elections for governor or lieutenant governor shall be determined by the General Assembly, in such manner as may be prescribed by law.

7. No person shall be eligible to the office of governor or lieutenant governor who shall not have been five years a citizen of the United States, and also a resident of the State of Indiana during the five years next preceding his election; nor shall any person be eligible to either of the said offices who shall not have attained the age of thirty years.

8. No member of Congress, or person holding any office under the United States, or under this State, shall fill the office of governor or lieutenant governor.

9. The official term of the governor and lieutenant governor shall commence on the second Monday of January, in the year one thousand eight hundred and fifty-three, and on the same day every fourth year thereafter.

10. In case of the removal of the governor from office, or of his death, resignation, or inability to discharge the duties of the office, the same shall devolve on the lieutenant governor; and the General Assembly shall by law provide for the case of removal from office, death, resignation, or inability, both of the governor and lieutenant governor, declaring what officer shall then act as governor; and such officer shall act accordingly, until the disability be removed, or a governor be elected.

11. Whenever the lieutenant governor shall act as governor, or shall be unable to attend as president of the Senate, the Senate shall elect one of its own members as president for the occasion.

12. The governor shall be commander-in-chief of the military and naval forces, and may call out such forces to execute the laws, or to suppress insurrection, or to repel invasion.

13. He shall from time to time give to the General Assembly information touching the condition of the State, and recommend such measures as he shall judge to be expedient.

14. Every bill which shall have passed the General Assembly shall be presented to the governor; if he approve he shall sign it, but if not he shall return it, with his objections, to the house in which it shall have originated, which house shall enter the objections at large upon its journals, and proceed to reconsider the bill. If after such consideration a majority of all the members elected to that house shall agree to pass the bill, it shall be sent, with the governor's objections, to the other house, by which it shall likewise be reconsidered; and if approved by a majority of all the members elected to that house, it shall be a law. If any bill shall not be returned by the governor within three days, Sundays excepted, after it shall have been presented to him, it shall be a law without his signature, unless the general adjournment shall prevent its return, in which case it shall be a law, unless the governor within five days next after such adjournment shall file such bill, with his objections



thereto, in the office of secretary of state, who shall lay the same before the General Assembly at its next session, in like manner as if it had been returned by the governor. But no bill shall be presented to the governor within two days next previous to the final adjournment of the General Assembly.

15. The governor shall transact all necessary business with the officers of government, and may require information in writing from the officers of the administrative department, upon any subject relating to the duties of their respective offices.

16. He shall take care that the laws be faithfully executed.

17. He shall have the power to grant reprieves, commutations and pardons, after conviction, for all offences except treason and cases of impeachment, subject to such regulations as may be provided by law. Upon conviction for treason, he shall have power to suspend the execution of the sentence until the case shall be reported to the General Assembly at its next meeting, when the General Assembly shall either grant a pardon, commute the sentence, direct the execution of the sentence, or grant a further reprieve. He shall have power to remit fines and forfeitures, under such regulations as may be prescribed by law; and shall report to the General Assembly at its next meeting each case of reprieve, commutation, or pardon granted, and also the names of all persons in whose favor remission of fines and forfeitures shall have been made, and the several amounts remitted: Provided, however, that the General Assembly may by law constitute a council, to be composed of officers of State, without whose advice and consent the governor shall not have power to grant pardons in any case, except such as may by law be left to his sole power.

18. When, during a recess of the General Assembly, a vacancy shall happen in any office, the appointment to which is vested in the General Assembly; or when at any time a vacancy shall have occurred in any other State office, or in the office of judge of any court, the governor shall fill such vacancy by appointment, which shall expire when a successor shall have been elected and qualified.

19. He shall issue writs of election to fill such vacancies as may have occurred in the General Assembly.

20. Should the seat of government become dangerous from disease or a common enemy, he may convene the General Assembly at any other place.

21. The lieutenant governor shall, by virtue of his office, be president of the Senate, have a right when in committee of the whole to join in debate, and to vote on all subjects; and whenever the Senate shall be equally divided, he shall give the casting vote.

22. The governor shall at stated times receive for his services a compensation, which shall neither be increased nor diminished during the term for which he shall have been elected.

23. The lieutenant governor, while he shall act as president of the Senate, shall receive for his services the same compensation as the

speaker of the House of Representatives; and any person acting as governor shall receive the compensation attached to the office of governor.

24. Neither the governor nor lieutenant governor shall be eligible to any other office during the term for which he shall have been elected.

#### ARTICLE VI.—*Administrative.*

SEC. 1. There shall be elected by the voters of the State, a secretary, an auditor and a treasurer of state, who shall severally hold their offices for two years. They shall perform such duties as may be enjoined by law; and no person shall be eligible to either of said offices more than four years in any period of six years.

2. There shall be elected in each county by the voters thereof, at the time of holding general elections, a clerk of the circuit court, auditor, recorder, treasurer, sheriff, coroner and surveyor. The clerk, auditor and recorder, shall continue in office four years; and no person shall be eligible to the office of clerk, recorder or auditor, more than eight years in any period of twelve years. The treasurer, sheriff, coroner and surveyor, shall continue in office two years; and no person shall be eligible to the office of treasurer or sheriff more than four years in any period of six years.

3. Such other county and township officers as may be necessary, shall be elected or appointed in such manner as may be prescribed by law.

4. No person shall be elected or appointed as a county officer who shall not be an elector of the county; nor any one who shall not have been an inhabitant thereof during one year next preceding his appointment, if the county shall have been so long organized; but if the county shall not have been so long organized, then within the limits of the county or counties out of which the same shall have been taken.

5. The governor and the secretary, auditor and treasurer of state, shall severally reside, and keep the public records, books and papers in any manner relating to their respective offices, at the seat of government.

6. All county, township and town officers shall reside within their respective counties, townships and towns, and shall keep their respective offices at such places therein, and perform such duties as may be directed by law.

7. All State officers shall, for crime, incapacity, or negligence, be liable to be removed from office, either by impeachment by the House of Representatives, to be tried by the Senate, or by a joint resolution of the General Assembly, two-thirds of the members elected to each branch voting in either case therefor.

8. All State, county, township and town officers may be impeached or removed from office in such manner as may be prescribed by law.



9. Vacancies in county, township and town offices, shall be filled in such manner as may be prescribed by law.

10. The General Assembly may confer upon the boards doing county business in the several counties, powers of a local, administrative character.

#### ARTICLE VII.—*Judicial.*

SEC. 1. The judicial power of the State shall be vested in a supreme court, in circuit courts, and in such inferior courts as the General Assembly may establish.

2. The supreme court shall consist of not less than three, nor more than five judges, a majority of whom shall form a quorum. They shall hold their offices for six years, if they so long behave well.

3. The State shall be divided into as many districts as there are judges of the supreme court; and such districts shall be formed of contiguous territory, as nearly equal in population as, without dividing a county, the same can be made. One of said judges shall be elected from each district, and reside therein; but said judges shall be elected by the electors of the State at large.

4. The supreme court shall have jurisdiction co-extensive with the limits of the State, in appeals and writs of error, under such regulations and restrictions as may be prescribed by law. It shall also have such original jurisdiction as the General Assembly may confer.

5. The supreme court shall, upon the decision of every case, give a statement in writing of each question arising in the record of such case, and the decision of the court thereon.

6. The General Assembly shall provide by law for the speedy publication of the decisions of the supreme court made under this constitution; but no judge shall be allowed to report such decisions.

7. There shall be elected by the voters of the State, a clerk of the supreme court, who shall hold his office four years, and whose duties shall be prescribed by law.

8. The circuit courts shall each consist of one judge, and shall have such civil and criminal jurisdiction as may be prescribed by law.

9. The State shall from time to time be divided into judicial circuits; and a judge for each circuit shall be elected by the voters thereof. He shall reside within the circuit, and shall hold his office for the term of six years, if he so long behave well.

10. The General Assembly may provide by law that the judge of one circuit may hold the courts of another circuit, in cases of necessity or convenience; and in case of temporary inability of any judge, from sickness or other cause, to hold the courts in his circuit, provision shall be made by law for holding such courts.

11. There shall be elected in each judicial circuit, by the voters thereof, a prosecuting attorney, who shall hold his office for two years.

12. Any judge or prosecuting attorney who shall have been con

victed of corruption or other high crime, may, on information in the name of the State, be removed from office by the supreme court, or in such other manner as may be prescribed by law.

13. The judges of the supreme court and circuit courts shall at stated times receive a compensation, which shall not be diminished during their continuance in office.

14. A competent number of justices of the peace shall be elected by the voters in each township in the several counties. They shall continue in office four years, and their powers and duties shall be prescribed by law.

15. All judicial officers shall be conservators of the peace in their respective jurisdictions.

16. No person elected to any judicial office shall, during the term for which he shall have been elected, be eligible to any office of trust or profit under the State, other than a judicial office.

17. The General Assembly may modify or abolish the grand jury system.

18. All criminal prosecutions shall be carried on in the name and by the authority of the State; and the style of all process shall be: "The State of Indiana."

19. Tribunals of conciliation may be established, with such powers and duties as shall be prescribed by law; or the powers and duties of the same may be conferred upon other courts of justice; but such tribunals or other courts, when sitting as such, shall have no power to render judgment to be obligatory on the parties, unless they voluntarily submit their matters of difference, and agree to abide the judgment of such tribunal or court.

20. The General Assembly, at its first session after the adoption of this constitution, shall provide for the appointment of three commissioners, whose duty it shall be to revise, simplify, and abridge the rules, practice, pleadings, and forms of the courts of justice. And they shall provide for abolishing the distinct forms of action at law now in use, and that justice shall be administered in a uniform mode of pleading, without distinction between law and equity. And the General Assembly may also make it the duty of said commissioners to reduce into a systematic code the general statute law of the State; and said commissioners shall report the result of their labors to the General Assembly, with such recommendations and suggestions as to abridgment and amendment as to said commissioners may seem necessary or proper. Provision shall be made by law for filling vacancies, regulating the tenure of office and the compensation of said commissioners.

21. Every person of good moral character, being a voter, shall be entitled to admission to practice law in all courts of justice.

#### ARTICLE VIII.—*Education.*

SEC. 1. Knowledge and learning generally diffused throughout a community being essential to the preservation of a free government,



it shall be the duty of the General Assembly to encourage, by all suitable means, moral, intellectual, scientific, and agricultural improvement, and to provide by law for a general and uniform system of common schools, wherein tuition shall be without charge, and equally open to all.

2. The common school fund shall consist of the congressional township fund, and the lands belonging thereto ;

The surplus revenue fund ;

The saline fund, and the lands belonging thereto ;

The bank tax fund, and the fund arising from the one hundred and fourteenth section of the charter of the State Bank of Indiana ;

The fund to be derived from the sale of county seminaries, and the moneys and property heretofore held for such seminaries ; from the fines assessed for breaches of the penal laws of the State ; and from all forfeitures which may accrue ;

All lands and other estate which shall escheat to the State for want of heirs or kindred entitled to the inheritance ;

All lands that have been, or may hereafter be, granted to the State, where no special purpose is expressed in the grant, and the proceeds of the sales thereof, including the proceeds of the sales of the swamp lands granted to the State of Indiana by the act of Congress of 28th September, 1850, after deducting the expense of selecting and draining the same ;

Taxes on the property of corporations that may be assessed for common school purposes.

3. The principal of the common school fund shall remain a perpetual fund, which may be increased, but shall never be diminished ; and the income thereof shall be inviolably appropriated to the support of common schools, and to no other purpose whatever.

4. The General Assembly shall invest, in some safe and profitable manner, all such portions of the common school fund as have not heretofore been entrusted to the several counties ; and shall make provision by law for the distribution among the several counties of the interest thereof.

5. If any county shall fail to demand its proportion of such interest for common school purposes, the same shall be reinvested for the benefit of such county.

6. The several counties shall be held liable for the preservation of so much of the said fund as may be entrusted to them, and for the payment of the annual interest thereon.

7. All trust funds held by the State shall remain inviolate, and be faithfully and exclusively applied to the purposes for which the trust was created.

8. The General Assembly shall provide for the election, by the voters of the State, of a state superintendent of public instruction, who shall hold his office for two years, and whose duties and compensation shall be prescribed by law.

ARTICLE IX.—*State Institutions.*

SEC. 1. It shall be the duty of the General Assembly to provide by law for the support of institutions for the education of the deaf and dumb, and of the blind, and also for the treatment of the insane.

2. The General Assembly shall provide houses of refuge for the correction and reformation of juvenile offenders.

3. The county boards shall have power to provide farms, as an asylum for those persons who, by reason of age, infirmity, of other misfortune, may have claims upon the sympathies and aid of society.

ARTICLE X.—*Finance.*

SEC. 1. The General Assembly shall provide by law for a uniform and equal rate of assessment and taxation, and shall prescribe such regulations as shall secure a just valuation for taxation of all property, both real and personal, excepting such only for municipal, educational, literary, scientific, religious, or charitable purposes, as may be specially exempted by law.

2. All the revenues derived from the sale of any of the public works belonging to the State, and from the net annual income thereof, and any surplus that may at any time remain in the treasury derived from taxation for general State purposes, after the payment of the ordinary expenses of the government, and of the interest on bonds of the State, other than bank bonds, shall be annually applied, under the direction of the General Assembly, to the payment of the principal of the public debt.

3. No money shall be drawn from the treasury but in pursuance of appropriations made by law.

4. An accurate statement of the receipts and expenditures of the public money shall be published with the laws of each regular session of the General Assembly.

5. No law shall authorize any debt to be contracted on behalf of the State, except in the following cases: To meet casual deficits in the revenue, to pay the interest on the State debt, to repel invasion, suppress insurrection, or if hostilities be threatened, provide for the public defence.

6. No county shall subscribe for stock in any incorporated company, unless the same be paid for at the time of such subscription; nor shall any county loan its credit to any incorporated company, nor borrow money for the purpose of taking stock in any such company; nor shall the General Assembly ever on behalf of the State assume the debts of any county, city, town or township, nor of any corporation whatever.

ARTICLE XI.—*Corporations.*

SEC. 1. The General Assembly shall not have power to establish or incorporate any bank or banking company, or moneyed insti



tution, for the purpose of issuing bills of credit, or bills payable to order or bearer, except under the conditions prescribed in this constitution.

2. No banks shall be established otherwise than under a general banking law, except as provided in the fourth section of this article.

3. If the General Assembly shall enact a general banking law, such law shall provide for the registry and countersigning by an officer of State of all paper credit designed to be circulated as money, and ample collateral security, readily convertible into specie, for the redemption of the same in gold or silver, shall be required, which collateral security shall be under the control of the proper officer or officers of State.

4. The General Assembly may also charter a bank with branches without collateral security, as required in the preceding section.

5. If the General Assembly shall establish a bank with branches, the branches shall be mutually responsible for each other's liabilities upon all paper credit issued as money.

6. The stockholders in every bank or banking company shall be individually responsible to an amount over and above their stock, equal to their respective shares of stock, for all debts or liabilities of said bank or banking company.

7. All bills or notes issued as money shall be at all times redeemable in gold or silver; and no law shall be passed sanctioning, directly or indirectly, the suspension by any bank or banking company of specie payments.

8. Holders of bank notes shall be entitled, in case of insolvency, to preference of payment over all other creditors.

9. No bank shall receive, directly or indirectly, a greater rate of interest than shall be allowed by law to individuals loaning money.

10. Every bank or banking company shall be required to cease all banking operations within twenty years from the time of its organization, and promptly thereafter to close its business.

11. The General Assembly is not prohibited from investing the trust funds in a bank with branches; but in case of such investment, the safety of the same shall be guaranteed by unquestionable security.

12. The State shall not be a stockholder in any bank after the expiration of the present bank charter; nor shall the credit of the State ever be given or loaned in aid of any person, association, or corporation; nor shall the State hereafter become a stockholder in any corporation or association.

13. Corporations, other than banking, shall not be created by special act, but may be formed under general laws.

14. Dues from corporations, other than banking, shall be secured by such individual liability of the corporators, or other means, as may be prescribed by law.

ARTICLE XII.—*Militia.*

SEC. 1. The militia shall consist of all able bodied white male persons, between the ages of eighteen and forty-five years, except such as may be exempted by the laws of the United States, or of this State; and shall be organized, officered, armed, equipped, and trained, in such manner as may be provided by law.

2. The governor shall appoint the adjutant, quartermaster, and commissary generals.

3. All militia officers shall be commissioned by the governor, and shall hold their offices not longer than six years.

4. The General Assembly shall determine the method of dividing the militia into divisions, brigades, regiments, battalions, and companies, and fix the rank of all staff officers.

5. The militia may be divided into classes of sedentary and active militia, in such manner as shall be prescribed by law.

6. No person conscientiously opposed to bearing arms shall be compelled to do militia duty; but such person shall pay an equivalent for exemption, the amount to be prescribed by law.

ARTICLE XIII.—*Negroes and Mulattoes.*

SEC. 1. No negro or mulatto shall come into, or settle in the State, after the adoption of this constitution.

2. All contracts made with any negro or mulatto coming into the State, contrary to the provision of the foregoing section, shall be void; and any person who shall employ such negro or mulatto, or otherwise encourage him to remain in the State, shall be fined in any sum not less than ten dollars, nor more than five hundred dollars.

3. All fines which may be collected for a violation of the provisions of this article, or of any law which may hereafter be passed for the purpose of carrying the same into execution, shall be set apart and appropriated for the colonization of such negroes and mulattoes, and their descendants, as may be in the State at the adoption of this constitution, and may be willing to emigrate.

4. The General Assembly shall pass laws to carry out the provisions of this article.

ARTICLE XIV.—*Boundaries.*

SEC. 1. In order that the boundaries of the State may be known and established, it is hereby ordained and declared, that the State of Indiana is bounded on the east by the meridian line which forms the western boundary of the State of Ohio; on the south by the Ohio river, from the mouth of the Great Miama river to the mouth of the Wabash river; on the west by a line drawn along the middle of the Wabash river from its mouth, to a point where a due north line drawn from the town of Vincennes would last touch the north-western shore of said Wabash river; and thence by a due north line



until the same shall intersect an east and west line drawn through a point ten miles north of the southern extreme of Lake Michigan; on the north by said east and west line until the same shall intersect the first-mentioned meridian line, which forms the western boundary of the State of Ohio.

2. The State of Indiana shall possess jurisdiction and sovereignty co-extensive with the boundaries declared in the preceding section; and shall have concurrent jurisdiction in civil and criminal cases with the State of Kentucky on the Ohio river, and with the State of Illinois on the Wabash river, so far as said rivers form the common boundary between this State and said states respectively.

#### ARTICLE XV.—*Miscellaneous.*

SEC. 1. All officers whose appointment is not otherwise provided for in this constitution, shall be chosen in such manner as now is, or may hereafter be, prescribed by law.

2. When the duration of any office is not provided for by this constitution, it may be declared by law; and if not so declared, such office shall be held during the pleasure of the authority making the appointment. But the General Assembly shall not create any office, the tenure of which shall be longer than four years.

3. Whenever it is provided in this constitution, or in any law which may be hereafter passed, that any officer, other than a member of the General Assembly, shall hold his office for any given term, the same shall be construed to mean that such officer shall hold his office for such term, and until his successor shall have been elected and qualified.

4. Every person elected or appointed to any office under this constitution shall, before entering on the duties thereof, take an oath or affirmation to support the constitution of this State and of the United States, and also an oath of office.

5. There shall be a seal of State kept by the governor for official purposes, which shall be called the seal of the State of Indiana.

6. All commissions shall issue in the name of the State, shall be signed by the governor, sealed with the State seal, and attested by the secretary of State.

7. No county shall be reduced to an area less than four hundred square miles; nor shall any county under that area be further reduced.

8. No lottery shall be authorized, nor shall the sale of lottery tickets be allowed.

9. The following grounds, owned by the State in Indianapolis, namely: The State House Square, the Governor's Circle, and so much of out-lot numbered one hundred and forty-seven as lies north of the arm of the Central Canal, shall not be sold or leased.

10. It shall be the duty of the General Assembly to provide for the permanent enclosure and preservation of the Tippecanoe Battle Ground.

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ARTICLE XVI.—*Amendments.*

SEC. 1. Any amendment or amendments to this constitution may be proposed in either branch of the General Assembly, and if the same shall be agreed to by a majority of the members elected to each of the two houses, such proposed amendment or amendments shall, with the yeas and nays thereon, be entered on their journals, and referred to the General Assembly to be chosen at the next general election; and if in the General Assembly so next chosen such proposed amendment or amendments shall be agreed to by a majority of all the members elected to each house, then it shall be the duty of the General Assembly to submit such amendment or amendments to the electors of the State; and if a majority of said electors shall ratify the same, such amendment or amendments shall become a part of this constitution.

2. If two or more amendments shall be submitted at the same time, they shall be submitted in such manner that the electors shall vote for or against each of such amendments separately; and while an amendment or amendments which shall have been agreed upon by one General Assembly shall be awaiting the action of a succeeding General Assembly, or of the electors, no additional amendment or amendments shall be proposed.

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SCHEDULE.

THIS constitution, if adopted, shall take effect on the first day of November, in the year one thousand eight hundred and fifty-one, and shall supersede the constitution adopted in the year one thousand eight hundred and sixteen. That no inconvenience may arise from the change in the government, it is hereby ordained as follows:

1. All laws now in force, and not inconsistent with this constitution, shall remain in force until they shall expire or be repealed.

2. All indictments, prosecutions, suits, pleas, complaints, and other proceedings pending in any of the courts, shall be prosecuted to final judgment and execution; and all appeals, writs of error, certiorara, and injunctions, shall be carried on in the several courts in the same manner as is now provided by law.

3. All fines, penalties and forfeitures due or accruing to the State, or to any county therein, shall inure to the State, or to such county, in the manner prescribed by law. All bonds executed to the State, or to any officer in his official capacity, shall remain in force, and inure to the use of those concerned.

4. All acts of incorporation for municipal purposes shall continue in force under this constitution, until such time as the General Assembly shall, in its discretion, modify or repeal the same.

5. The governor, at the expiration of the present official term, shall continue to act until his successor shall have been sworn into office.

6. There shall be a session of the General Assembly, commencing on the first Monday of December, in the year one thousand eight hundred and fifty-one.

7. Senators now in office and holding over under the existing constitution, and



such as may be elected at the next general election, and the representatives then elected, shall continue in office until the first general election under this constitution.

8. The first general election under this constitution shall be held in the year one thousand eight hundred and fifty-two.

9. The first election for governor, lieutenant governor, judges of the supreme court and circuit courts, clerk of the supreme court, prosecuting attorney, secretary, auditor, and treasurer of state, and state superintendent of public instruction, under this constitution, shall be held at the general election in the year one thousand eight hundred and fifty-two; and such of said officers as may be in office when this constitution shall go into effect, shall continue in their respective offices, until their successors shall have been elected and qualified.

10. Every person elected by popular vote, and now in any office which is continued by this constitution, and every person who shall be so elected to any such office before the taking effect of this constitution (except as in this constitution otherwise provided), shall continue in office until the term for which such person has been, or may be elected, shall expire: Provided that no such person shall continue in office after the taking effect of this constitution for a longer period than the term of such office in this constitution prescribed.

11. On the taking effect of this constitution, all officers thereby continued in office shall, before proceeding in the further discharge of their duties, take an oath or affirmation to support this constitution.

12. All vacancies that may occur in existing offices prior to the first general election under this constitution, shall be filled in the manner now prescribed by law.

13. At the time of submitting this constitution to the electors for their approval or disapproval, the article numbered thirteen, in relation to negroes and mulattoes, shall be submitted as a distinct proposition, in the following form: "Exclusion and colonization of negroes and mulattoes," "Aye" or "No." And if a majority of the votes cast shall be in favor of said article, then the same shall form a part of this constitution, otherwise it shall be void, and form no part thereof.

14. No article or section of this constitution shall be submitted as a distinct proposition to a vote of the electors, otherwise than is herein provided.

15. Whenever a portion of the citizens of the counties of Perry and Spencer shall deem it expedient to form of the contiguous territory of said counties a new county, it shall be the duty of those interested in the organization of such new county to lay off the same by proper metes and bounds, of equal portions as nearly as practicable, not to exceed one-third of the territory of each of said counties. The proposal to create such new county shall be submitted to the voters of said counties at a general election, in such manner as shall be prescribed by law. And if a majority of all the votes given at said election shall be in favor of the organization of said new county, it shall be the duty of the General Assembly to organize the same out of the territory thus designated.

16. The General Assembly may alter or amend the charter of Clarksville and make such regulations as may be necessary for carrying into effect the objects contemplated in granting the same; and the funds belonging to said town shall be applied according to the intention of the grantor.

Done in Convention at Indianapolis, the tenth day of February, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and fifty-one, and of the Independence of the United States the seventy-fifth.

GEORGE WHITFIELD CARR, *President*.





## ILLINOIS.



THE first settlement made in this State was by the French, at Kaskaskia, about 1720. By the treaty of peace between England and France in 1763, it came into the possession of the British. In 1789 it constituted a part of the North-West Territory. In 1800, what is now Indiana and Illinois, became a separate territory. In 1809 Illinois became a territory under its present name, and in 1818 it was admitted into the union as an independent State. In 1800 Illinois contained not more than 3,000 inhabitants; its increase has been very rapid, having more than trebled its inhabitants every ten years.

Area, 50,000 sq. m. Pop. in 1850, 858,298; 1855, 1,306,576.

## CONSTITUTION.

### PREAMBLE.

WE, the people of the state of Illinois—grateful to Almighty God for the civil, political, and religious liberty, which he hath so long permitted us to enjoy, and looking to him for a blessing upon our endeavors to secure and transmit the same unimpaired to succeeding generations—in order to form a more perfect government, establish justice, insure domestic tranquillity, provide for the common defence, promote the general welfare, and secure the blessings of liberty to ourselves and our posterity, do ordain and establish this constitution for the state of Illinois.

ARTICLE I.—*Boundaries.*

SEC. 1. The boundaries and jurisdiction of the state shall be as follows, to wit: beginning at the mouth of the Wabash river; thence up the same, and with the line of Indiana, to the north-west corner of said state; thence east, with the line of the same state, to the middle of Lake Michigan; thence north, along the middle of said lake, to north latitude forty-two degrees and thirty minutes; thence west to the middle of the Mississippi river, and thence down, along the middle of that river, to its confluence with the Ohio river; and thence up the latter river, along its north-western shore, to the place of beginning: *Provided*, that this state shall exercise such jurisdiction upon the Ohio river as she is now entitled to, or such as may hereafter be agreed upon by this state and the state of Kentucky.

ARTICLE II.—*Concerning the Distribution of the Powers of Government.*

SEC. 1. The powers of the government of the state of Illinois shall be divided into three distinct departments, and each of them be confided to a separate body of magistracy, to wit: those which are legislative, to one; those which are executive, to another; and those which are judicial, to another.

2. No person, or collection of persons, being one of these departments, shall exercise any power properly belonging to either of the others, except as hereinafter expressly directed or permitted, and all acts in contravention of this section shall be void.

ARTICLE III.—*Of the Legislative Department.*

SEC. 1. The legislative authority of this state shall be vested in a general assembly, which shall consist of a senate and house of representatives, both to be elected by the people.

2. The first election for senators and representatives shall be held on the Tuesday after the first Monday in November, one thousand eight hundred and forty eight; and thereafter, elections for members of the general assembly shall be held once in two years, on the Tuesday next after the first Monday in November, in each and every county, at such places therein as may be provided by law.

3. No person shall be a representative who shall not have attained the age of twenty-five years; who shall not be a citizen of the United States, and three years an inhabitant of this state; who shall not have resided within the limits of the county or district in which he shall be chosen twelve months next preceding his election, if such county or district shall have been so long erected, but, if not, then within the limits of the county or counties, district or districts, out of which the same shall have been taken, unless he shall have been absent on the public business of the United States or of this state; and who, moreover, shall not have paid a state or county tax.

4. No person shall be a senator who shall not have attained the age of thirty years; who shall not be a citizen of the United States, five years an inhabitant of this state and one year in the county or district in which he shall be chosen immediately preceding his election, if such county or district shall have been so long erected, but, if not, then within the limits of the county or counties, district or districts, out of which the same shall have been taken, unless he shall have been absent on the public business of the United States or of this state, and shall not, moreover, have paid a state or county tax.

5. The senators at their first session herein provided for shall be divided by lot, as near as can be, into two classes. The seats of the first class shall be vacated at the expiration of the second year, and those of the second class at the expiration of the fourth year; so that one half thereof, as near as possible, may be biennially chosen for ever thereafter.

6. The senate shall consist of twenty-five members, and the house of representatives shall consist of seventy-five members, until the population of the state



shall amount to one million of souls, when five members may be added to the house, and five additional members for every five hundred thousand inhabitants thereafter, until the whole number of representatives shall amount to one hundred; after which the number shall be neither increased nor diminished; to be apportioned among the several counties according to the number of white inhabitants. In all future apportionments, where more than one county shall be thrown into a representative district, all the representatives to which said counties may be entitled shall be elected by the entire district.

7. No person elected to the general assembly shall receive any civil appointment within this state, or to the senate of the United States, from the governor, the governor and senate, or from the general assembly, during the term for which he shall have been elected; and all such appointments, and all votes given for any such member for any such office or appointment, shall be void; nor shall any member of the general assembly be interested, either directly or indirectly, in any contract with the state, or any county thereof, authorised by any law passed during the time for which he shall have been elected, or during one year after the expiration thereof.

8. In the year one thousand eight hundred and fifty-five, and every tenth year thereafter, an enumeration of all the inhabitants of this state shall be made in such manner as shall be directed by law; and in the year eighteen hundred and fifty, and every tenth year thereafter, the census taken by authority of the government of the United States shall be adopted by the general assembly as the enumeration of this state; and the number of senators and representatives shall at the first regular session holden after the returns herein provided for are made, be apportioned among the several counties or districts to be established by law, according to the number of white inhabitants.

9. Senatorial and representative districts shall be composed of contiguous territory bounded by county lines; and only one senator allowed to each senatorial, and not more than three representatives to any representative district: *Provided*, that cities and towns, containing the requisite population, may be erected into separate districts.

10. In forming senatorial and representative districts, counties, containing a population of not more than one fourth over the existing ratio, shall form separate districts, and the excess shall be given to the nearest county or counties not having a senator or representative, as the case may be, which has the largest white population.

11. The first session of the general assembly shall commence on the first Monday of January, one thousand eight hundred and forty-nine; and for ever after the general assembly shall meet on the first Monday of January next ensuing the election of the members thereof, and at no other period, unless as provided by this constitution.

12. The senate and house of representatives, when assembled, shall each choose a speaker and other officers (the speaker of the senate excepted). Each house shall judge of the qualifications and election of its members, and sit upon its own adjournments. Two-thirds of each house shall constitute a quorum; but a smaller number may adjourn from day to day, and compel the attendance of absent members.

13. Each house shall keep a journal of its proceedings, and publish them. The yeas and nays of the members on any question shall, at the desire of any two of them, be entered on the journals.

14. Any two members of either house shall have liberty to dissent and protest against any act or resolution, which they may think injurious to the public, or to any individual, and have the reasons of their dissent entered on the journals.

15. Each house may determine the rules of its proceedings, punish its members for disorderly behavior, and, with the concurrence of two-thirds of all the members elected, expel a member, but not a second time for the same cause; and the

reason for such expulsion shall be entered upon the journal, with the names of the members voting on the question.

16. When vacancies happen in either house, the governor, or the person exercising the powers of governor, shall issue writs of election to fill such vacancies.

17. Senators and representatives shall in all cases, except treason, felony, or breach of the peace, be privileged from arrest during the session of the general assembly, and in going to and returning from the same; and for any speech or debate in either house, they shall not be questioned in any other place.

18. Each house may punish, by imprisonment during its session, any person, not a member, who shall be guilty of disrespect to the house, by any disorderly or contemptuous behavior in their presence: *Provided*, such imprisonment shall not, at any one time, exceed twenty-four hours.

19. The doors of each house, and of committees of the whole, shall be kept open, except in such cases as in the opinion of the house require secrecy. Neither house shall, without the consent of the other, adjourn for more than two days, nor to any other place than that in which the two houses shall be sitting.

20. The style of the laws of this state shall be: "*Be it enacted by the people of the state of Illinois, represented in the general assembly.*"

21. Bills may originate in either house, but may be altered, amended, or rejected, by the other; and on the final passage of all bills, the vote shall be by ayes and noes, and shall be entered on the journal; and no bill shall become a law without the concurrence of a majority of all the members elect in each house.

22. Bills making appropriations for the pay of the members and officers of the general assembly, and for the salaries of the officers of the government, shall not contain any provision on any other subject.

23. Every bill shall be read on three different days in each house, unless, in case of urgency, three-fourths of the house, where such bill is so depending, shall deem it expedient to dispense with this rule; and every bill, having passed both houses, shall be signed by the speakers of their respective houses; and no private or local law which may be passed by the general assembly, shall embrace more than one subject, and that shall be expressed in the title. And no public act of the general assembly shall take effect or be in force, until the expiration of sixty days from the end of the session at which the same may be passed, unless, in case of emergency, the general assembly shall otherwise direct.

24. The sum of two dollars per day, for the first forty-two days' attendance, and one dollar per day for each day's attendance thereafter, and ten cents for each necessary mile's travel, going to and returning from the seat of government shall be allowed to the members of the general assembly, as a compensation for their services, and no more. The speaker of the house of representatives shall be allowed the sum of one dollar per day, in addition to his per-diem as a member.

25. The per-diem and mileage allowed to each member of the general assembly, shall be certified by the speakers of their respective houses, and entered on the journals, and published at the close of each session.

26. No money shall be drawn from the treasury, but in consequence of appropriations made by law; and an accurate statement of the receipts and expenditures of the public money shall be attached to, and published with, the laws at the rising of each session of the general assembly. And no person, who has been or may be a collector or holder of public moneys, shall be eligible to a seat in either house of the general assembly, nor be eligible to any office of profit or trust in this state, until such person shall have accounted for, and paid into the treasury, all sums for which he may be accountable.

27. The house of representatives shall have the sole power of impeaching; but a majority of all the members elected, must concur in an impeachment. All impeachments shall be tried by the senate; and when sitting for that purpose, the senators shall be upon oath, or affirmation, to do justice according to law and



evidence. No person shall be convicted without the concurrence of two thirds of the senators elected.

28. The governor, and other civil officers under this state, shall be liable to impeachment for any misdemeanor in office; but judgment in such cases shall not extend further than to removal from office, and disqualification to hold any office of honor, profit, or trust, under this state. The party, whether convicted or acquitted, shall, nevertheless, be liable to indictment, trial, judgment, and punishment, according to law.

29. No judge of any court of law or equity, secretary of state, attorney-general, attorney for the state, recorder, clerk of any court of record, sheriff or collector, member of either house of Congress, or person holding any lucrative office under the United States or of this state—provided that appointments in the militia, or justices of the peace, shall not be considered lucrative offices—shall have a seat in the general assembly; nor shall any person, holding any office of honor or profit under the government of the United States, hold any office of honor or profit under the authority of this state.

30. Every person who shall be chosen or appointed to any office of trust or profit shall, before entering upon the duties thereof, take an oath to support the constitution of the United States, and of this state, and also an oath of office.

31. The general assembly shall have full power to exclude from the privilege of electing, or being elected, any person convicted of bribery, perjury, or other infamous crime.

32. The general assembly shall have no power to grant divorces, but may authorize the courts of justice to grant them for such causes as may be specified by law: *Provided*, that such laws be general and uniform in their operation.

33. The general assembly shall never grant or authorize extra compensation to any public officer, agent, servant, or contractor, after the service shall have been rendered, or the contract entered into.

34. The general assembly shall direct by law in what manner suits may be brought against the state.

35. The general assembly shall have no power to authorize lotteries for any purpose, nor to revive or extend the charter of the State bank, or the charter of any other bank heretofore existing in this state, and shall pass laws to prohibit the sale of lottery-tickets in this state.

36. The general assembly shall have no power to authorize, by private or special law, the sale of any lands or other real estate belonging in whole or in part to any individual or individuals.

37. Each general assembly shall provide for all the appropriations necessary for the ordinary and contingent expenses of the government until the adjournment of the next regular session, the aggregate amount of which shall not be increased without a vote of two-thirds of each house, nor exceed the amount of revenue authorized by law to be raised in such time: *Provided*, the state may, to meet casual deficits or failures in revenues, contract debts never to exceed in the aggregate, fifty-thousand dollars; and the moneys thus borrowed shall be applied to the purpose for which they were obtained, or to repay the debt thus made, and to no other purpose; and no other debt, except for the purpose of repelling invasion, suppressing insurrection, or defending the state in war, (for payment of which the faith of the state shall be pledged,) shall be contracted, unless the law authorizing the same shall, at a general election, have been submitted to the people, and have received a majority of all the votes cast for members of the general assembly at such election. The general assembly shall provide for the publication of said law for three months, at least, before the vote of the people shall be taken upon the same; and provision shall be made, at the time, for the payment of the interest annually, as it shall accrue, by a tax levied for the purpose, or from other sources of revenue; which law, providing for the payment of such interest by such tax, shall be irrevocable until such

debt be paid: *And provided, further*, that the law levying the tax shall be submitted to the people with the law authorizing the debt to be contracted.

38. The credit of the state shall not, in any manner, be given to, or in aid of, any individual, association, or corporation.

39. The general assembly shall provide, by law, that the fuel and stationery furnished for the use of the state, the copying, printing, binding, and distributing the laws and journals, and all other printing ordered by the general assembly, shall be let, by contract, to the lowest responsible bidder; and that no member of the general assembly, or other officer of the state, shall be interested, either directly or indirectly, in any such contract: *Provided*, that the general assembly may fix a maximum price.

40. Until there shall be a new apportionment of senators and representatives, the state shall be divided into senatorial and representative districts; and the senators and representatives shall be apportioned among the several districts as follows, viz.:—

#### *Senatorial Districts.*

1. The counties of Alexander, Union, Pulaski, Johnson, Massac, Pope, and Hardin, shall constitute the first senatorial district, and shall be entitled to one senator.

2. The counties of Gallatin, Saline, Williamson, Franklin, and White, shall constitute the second senatorial district, and be entitled to one senator.

3. The counties of Jefferson, Wayne, Marion, and Hamilton, shall constitute the third senatorial district, and be entitled to one senator.

4. The counties of Washington, Perry, Randolph, and Jackson, shall constitute the fourth senatorial district, and be entitled to one senator.

5. The counties of St. Clair and Monroe, shall constitute the fifth senatorial district, and be entitled to one senator.

6. The counties of Madison and Clinton, shall constitute the sixth senatorial district, and be entitled to one senator.

7. The counties of Christian, Shelby, Montgomery, Bond, and Fayette, shall constitute the seventh senatorial district, and be entitled to one senator.

8. The counties of Effingham, Jasper, Clay, Richland, Lawrence, Edwards, and Wabash, shall constitute the eighth senatorial district, and be entitled to one senator.

9. The counties of Edgar, Clark, and Crawford, shall constitute the ninth senatorial district, and be entitled to one senator.

10. The counties of Vermilion, Champaign, Piatt, Moultrie, Coles, and Cumberland, shall constitute the tenth senatorial district, and be entitled to one senator.

11. The counties of Tazewell, McLean, Logan, De Witt, and Macon, shall constitute the eleventh senatorial district, and be entitled to one senator.

12. The counties of Sangamon, Menard, and Mason, shall constitute the twelfth senatorial district, and be entitled to one senator.

13. The counties of Macoupin, Jersey, Greene, and Calhoun, shall constitute the thirteenth senatorial district, and be entitled to one senator.

14. The counties of Morgan, Scott, and Cass, shall constitute the fourteenth senatorial district, and be entitled to one senator.

15. The counties of Adams and Pike shall constitute the fifteenth senatorial district, and be entitled to one senator.

16. The counties of McDonough, Schuyler, Brown, and Highland, shall constitute the sixteenth senatorial district, and be entitled to one senator.

17. The counties of Hancock and Henderson, shall constitute the seventeenth senatorial district, and be entitled to one senator.

18. The counties of Fulton and Peoria shall constitute the eighteenth senatorial district, and be entitled to one senator.

19. The counties of Rock Island, Henry, Mercer, Warren, Knox, and Stark,



shall constitute the nineteenth senatorial district, and be entitled to one senator.

20. The counties of La Salle, Bureau, Putnam, Marshall, Woodford, Livingston, and Grundy, shall constitute the twentieth senatorial district, and be entitled to one senator.

21. The counties of Du Page, Kendall, Will, and Iroquois, shall constitute the twenty-first senatorial district, and be entitled to one senator.

22. The counties of Ogle, Lee, De Kalb, and Kane, shall constitute the twenty-second senatorial district, and be entitled to one senator.

23. The counties of Jo Daviess, Stephenson, Carroll, and Whiteside, shall constitute the twenty-third senatorial district, and be entitled to one senator.

24. The counties of M'Henry, Boone, and Winnebago, shall constitute the twenty-fourth senatorial district, and be entitled to one senator.

25. The counties of Cook and Lake, shall constitute the twenty-fifth senatorial district, and be entitled to one senator.

#### *Representative Districts.*

1. The counties of Union, Alexander, and Pulaski, shall constitute the first representative district, and be entitled to one representative.

2. The counties of Massac, Pope, and Hardin, shall constitute the second representative district, and be entitled to one representative.

3. The counties of Gallatin and Saline, shall constitute the third representative district, and be entitled to one representative.

4. The counties of Johnson and Williamson, shall constitute the fourth representative district, and be entitled to one representative.

5. The counties of Jackson and Franklin, shall constitute the fifth representative district, and be entitled to one representative.

6. The counties of Marion, Jefferson, Wayne, and Hamilton, shall constitute the sixth representative district, and be entitled to three representatives: *Provided*, that no county in said district shall have more than one of said representatives, and the county from which a senator shall be selected, shall not be entitled to a representative residing in said county.

7. The county of White, shall constitute the seventh representative district, and be entitled to one representative.

8. The counties of Wabash and Edwards, shall constitute the eighth representative district, and be entitled to one representative.

9. The counties of Lawrence and Richland, shall constitute the ninth representative district, and be entitled to one representative.

10. The counties of Crawford and Jasper shall constitute the tenth representative district, and be entitled to one representative.

11. The county of Coles, shall constitute the eleventh representative district, and be entitled to one representative.

12. The county of Clark, shall constitute the twelfth representative district, and be entitled to one representative.

13. The counties of Cumberland, Effingham, and Clay, shall constitute the thirteenth representative district, and be entitled to one representative.

14. The county of Fayette, shall constitute the fourteenth representative district, and be entitled to one representative.

15. The counties of Montgomery, Bond, and Clinton, shall constitute the fifteenth representative district, and be entitled to two representatives.

16. The counties of Washington and Perry, shall constitute the sixteenth representative district, and be entitled to one representative.

17. The county of Randolph shall constitute the seventeenth representative district, and be entitled to one representative.

18. The county of Monroe, shall constitute the eighteenth representative district, and be entitled to one representative.

19. The county of St. Clair shall constitute the nineteenth representative district, and be entitled to two representatives.
20. The county of Madison, shall constitute the twentieth representative district, and be entitled to two representatives.
21. The county of Macoupin, shall constitute the twenty-first representative district, and be entitled to one representative.
22. The counties of Jersey and Green, shall constitute the twenty-second representative district, and be entitled to two representatives.
23. The county of Scott, shall constitute the twenty-third representative district, and be entitled to one representative.
24. The county of Morgan, shall constitute the twenty-fourth representative district, and be entitled to two representatives.
25. The counties of Cass and Menard, shall constitute the twenty-fifth representative district, and be entitled to one representative.
26. The county of Sangamon, shall constitute the twenty-sixth representative district, and be entitled to two representatives.
27. The counties of Mason and Logan, shall constitute the twenty-seventh representative district, and be entitled to one representative.
28. The county of Tazewell, shall constitute the twenty-eighth representative district, and be entitled to one representative.
29. The counties of McLean and De Witt, shall constitute the twenty-ninth representative district, and be entitled to one representative.
30. The county of Vermilion, shall constitute the thirtieth representative district, and be entitled to one representative.
31. The county of Edgar, shall constitute the thirty-first representative district, and be entitled to one representative.
32. The counties of Champaign, Piatt, Moultrie, and Macon, shall constitute the thirty-second representative district, and be entitled to one representative.
33. The counties of Shelby and Christian, shall constitute the thirty-third representative district, and be entitled to one representative.
34. The counties of Pike and Calhoun, shall constitute the thirty-fourth representative district, and be entitled to two representatives.
35. The counties of Adams, Highland, and Brown, shall constitute the thirty-fifth representative district, and be entitled to three representatives.
36. The county of Schuyler, shall constitute the thirty-sixth representative district, and be entitled to one representative.
37. The county of Hancock, shall constitute the thirty-seventh representative district, and be entitled to two representatives.
38. The county of McDonough, shall constitute the thirty-eighth representative district, and be entitled to one representative.
39. The county of Fulton, shall constitute the thirty-ninth representative district, and be entitled to two representatives.
40. The county of Peoria, shall constitute the fortieth representative district, and be entitled to one representative.
41. The county of Knox, shall constitute the forty-first representative district, and be entitled to one representative.
42. The counties of Mercer, Warren, and Henderson, shall constitute the forty-second representative district, and be entitled to two representatives.
43. The counties of Rock Island, Henry, and Stark, shall constitute the forty-third representative district, and be entitled to one representative.
44. The counties of Whiteside and Lee, shall constitute the forty-fourth representative district, and be entitled to one representative.
45. The counties of Carroll and Ogle, shall constitute the forty-fifth representative district, and be entitled to one representative.
46. The counties of Jo Daviess and Stephenson, shall constitute the forty-sixth representative district, and be entitled to two representatives.



47. The county of Winnebago, shall constitute the forty-seventh representative district, and be entitled to one representative.

48. The counties of Putnam, Marshall, and Woodford, shall constitute the forty-eighth representative district, and be entitled to one representative.

49. The counties of La Salle, Grundy, Livingston, and Bureau, shall constitute the forty-ninth representative district, and be entitled to two representatives.

50. The counties of Du Page, Kendall, Will, and Iroquois, shall constitute the fiftieth representative district, and be entitled to three representatives.

51. The counties of Kane and De Kalb, shall constitute the fifty-first representative district, and be entitled to two representatives.

52. The counties of Boone and M'Henry, shall constitute the fifty-second representative district, and be entitled to two representatives.

53. The county of Lake, shall constitute the fifty-third representative district, and be entitled to one representative.

54. The county of Cook, shall constitute the fifty-fourth representative district, and be entitled to two representatives.

SEC. 41. Until the general assembly shall otherwise provide, the clerks of the county commissioners' courts in each of the aforesaid senatorial districts, and in such of the representative districts as may be composed of more than one county, shall meet at the county-seat of the oldest county in said district, within thirty days next after any election for senator or representative therein, for the purpose of comparing and canvassing the votes given at such election; and the said clerks shall in all other respects conform to the laws on the subject in force at the time of the adoption of this constitution.

#### ARTICLE IV.—*Of the Executive Department.*

SEC. 1. The executive power of the state shall be vested in a governor.

2. The first election of governor shall be held on Tuesday next after the first Monday in November, A. D. 1848; and the next election shall be held on Tuesday next after the first Monday of November, A. D. 1852; and thereafter an election for governor shall be held once in four years, on Tuesday next after the first Monday of November. The governor shall be chosen by the electors of the members of the general assembly, at the same places and in the same manner that they shall, respectively, vote for members thereof. The returns for every election of governor shall be sealed up, and transmitted to the seat of government, by the returning officers, directed to the speaker of the house of representatives, who shall open and publish them in the presence of a majority of the members of each house of the general assembly. The person having the highest number of votes shall be governor; but if two or more be equal and highest in votes, then one of them shall be chosen governor by joint ballot of both houses of the general assembly. Contested elections shall be determined by both houses of the general assembly, in such manner as shall be prescribed by law.

3. The first governor shall enter upon the duties of his office on the second Monday of January, A. D. 1849, and shall hold his office until the second Monday of January, A. D. 1853, and until his successor shall have been elected and qualified; and thereafter the governor shall hold his office for the term of four years, and until his successor shall have been elected and qualified; but he shall not be eligible to such office more than four years in any term of eight years, nor to any other office until after the expiration of the term for which he was elected.

4. No person, except a citizen of the United States, shall be eligible to the office of governor; nor shall any person be eligible to that office, who shall not have attained the age of thirty-five years, and been ten years a resident of this state, and fourteen years a citizen of the United States.

5. The governor shall reside at the seat of government, and receive a salary of fifteen hundred dollars per annum, which shall not be increased or diminished; and he shall not, during the time for which he shall have been elected, receive any emolument from the United States, or either of them.

6. Before he enters upon the duties of his office, he shall take the following oath or affirmation, to wit: "I do solemnly swear [or affirm] that I will faithfully execute the duties appertaining to the office of governor of the state of Illinois; and will, to the best of my ability, preserve, protect, and defend the constitution of this state; and will, also, support the constitution of the United States."

7. He shall, from time to time, give the general assembly information of the state of the government, and recommend to their consideration, such measures as he shall deem expedient.

8. The governor shall have power to grant reprieves, commutations, and pardons, after conviction, for all offences, except treason and cases of impeachment, upon such conditions and with such restrictions and limitations as he may think proper, subject to such regulations as may be provided by law, relative to the manner of applying for pardons. Upon conviction for treason, he shall have power to suspend the execution of the sentence, until the case shall be reported to the general assembly at its next meeting, when the general assembly shall pardon the convict, commute the sentence, direct the execution thereof, or grant a further reprieve. He shall, biennially, communicate to the general assembly each case of reprieve, commutation, or pardon granted, stating the name of the convict, the crime for which he was convicted, the sentence and its date, and the date of commutation, pardon, or reprieve.

9. He may require information in writing from the officers in the executive department, upon any subject relating to the duties of their respective offices, and shall take care that the laws be faithfully executed.

10. He may, on extraordinary occasions, convene the general assembly by proclamation, and shall state, in said proclamation, the purpose for which they are to convene; and the general assembly shall enter on no legislative business, except that for which they were specially called together.

11. He shall be commander-in-chief of the army and navy of this state, and of the militia, except when they shall be called into the service of the United States.

12. The governor shall nominate, and, by and with the advice and consent of the senate, (a majority of all the senators concurring,) appoint all officers whose offices are established by this constitution, or which may be created by law, and whose appointments are not otherwise provided for; and no such officer shall be appointed or elected by the general assembly.

13. In case of disagreement between the two houses with respect to the time of adjournment, the governor shall have power to adjourn the general assembly to such time as he thinks proper, provided it be not to a period beyond the next constitutional meeting of the same.

14. A lieutenant-governor shall be chosen at every election of governor, in the same manner, continue in office for the same time, and possess the same qualifications. In voting for governor and lieutenant governor, the electors shall distinguish whom they vote for as governor, and whom as lieutenant-governor.

15. The lieutenant-governor shall, by virtue of his office, be speaker of the senate, have a right, when in committee of the whole, to debate and vote on all subjects, and, whenever the senate are equally divided, to give the casting vote.

16. Whenever the government shall be administered by the lieutenant-governor, or he shall be unable to attend as speaker of the senate, the senators shall elect one of their own number as speaker for that occasion; and if, during the vacancy of the office of governor, the lieutenant-governor shall be impeached, removed from office, refuse to qualify, or resign, or die, or be absent from the state, the speaker of the senate shall, in like manner, administer the government.

17. The lieutenant-governor, while he acts as speaker of the senate, shall receive for his services the same compensation which shall, for the same period, be allowed to the speaker of the house of representatives, and no more.

18. If the lieutenant-governor shall be called upon to administer the govern-



ment, and shall, while in such administration, resign, die, or be absent from the state, during the recess of the general assembly, it shall be the duty of the secretary of state, for the time being, to convene the senate for the purpose of choosing a speaker.

19. In case of the impeachment of the governor, his absence from the state, or inability to discharge the duties of his office, the powers, duties, and emoluments of the office shall devolve upon the lieutenant-governor; and in case of his death, resignation, or removal, then upon the speaker of the senate for the time being, until the governor, absent or impeached, shall return or be acquitted; or until the disqualification or inability shall cease; or until a new governor shall be elected and qualified.

20. In case of a vacancy in the office of governor, for any other cause than those herein enumerated, or in case of the death of the governor elect before he is qualified, the powers, duties, and emoluments of the office shall devolve upon the lieutenant-governor, or speaker of the senate, as above provided, until a new governor be elected and qualified.

21. Every bill which shall have passed the senate and house of representatives, shall, before it becomes a law, be presented to the governor; if he approve, he shall sign it; but if not, he shall return it, with his objections, to the house in which it shall have originated; and the said house shall enter the objections at large on their journal, and proceed to reconsider it. If, after such reconsideration, a majority of the members elected shall agree to pass the bill, it shall be sent, together with the objections, to the other house, by which it shall likewise be reconsidered; and if approved by a majority of the members elected, it shall become a law, notwithstanding the objections of the governor; but in all such cases, the votes of both houses shall be determined by yeas and nays, to be entered on the journal of each house respectively. If any bill shall not be returned by the governor within ten days (Sundays excepted) after it shall have been presented to him, the same shall be a law, in like manner as if he had signed it, unless the general assembly shall, by their adjournment, prevent its return, in which case the said bill shall be returned on the first day of the meeting of the general assembly, after the expiration of said ten days, or be a law.

22. There shall be elected by the qualified electors of this state, at the same time of the election for governor, a secretary of state, whose term of office shall be the same as that of the governor, who shall keep a fair register of the official acts of the governor, and, when required, shall lay the same, and all papers, minutes, and vouchers, relative thereto, before either branch of the general assembly, and shall perform such other duties as shall be assigned him by law, and shall receive a salary of eight hundred dollars per annum, and no more, except fees: *Provided*, that if the office of secretary of state should be vacated by death, resignation, or otherwise, it shall be the duty of the governor to appoint another, who shall hold his office until another secretary shall be elected and qualified.

23. There shall be chosen, by the qualified electors throughout the state, an auditor of public accounts, who shall hold his office for the term of four years, and until his successor is qualified, and whose duties shall be regulated by law, and who shall receive a salary, exclusive of clerk-hire, of one thousand dollars per annum for his services, and no more.

24. There shall be elected, by the qualified electors throughout the state, a state treasurer, who shall hold his office for two years, and until his successor is qualified; whose duties may be regulated by law, and who shall receive a salary of eight hundred dollars per annum, and no more.

25. All grants and commissions shall be sealed with the great seal of state, signed by the governor or person administering the government, and countersigned by the secretary of state.

26. The governor and all other civil officers shall be liable to impeachment for

misdemeanor in office, during their continuance in office, and for two years thereafter.

ARTICLE V.—*Of the Judiciary Department.*

SEC. 1. The judicial power of this state shall be, and is hereby, vested in one supreme court, in circuit courts, in county courts, and in justices of the peace: *Provided*, that inferior local courts, of civil and criminal jurisdiction, may be established by the general assembly in the cities of this state, but such courts shall have a uniform organization and jurisdiction in such cities.

2. The supreme court shall consist of three judges, two of whom shall form a quorum; and the concurrence of two of said judges shall in all cases be necessary to a decision.

3. The state shall be divided into three grand divisions, as nearly equal as may be, and the qualified electors of each division shall elect one of the said judges for the term of nine years: *Provided*, that after the first election of such judges, the general assembly may have the power to provide by law for their election by the whole state, or by divisions, as they may deem most expedient.

4. The office of one of said judges shall be vacated, after the first election held under this article, in three years; of one, in six years; and of one, in nine years; to be decided by lot, so that one of said judges shall be elected once in every three years. The judge having the longest term to serve shall be the first chief-justice; after which, the judge having the oldest commission shall be chief-justice.

5. The supreme court may have original jurisdiction in cases relative to the revenue, in cases of *mandamus*, *habeas corpus*, and in such cases of impeachment as may be by law directed to be tried before it, and shall have appellate jurisdiction in all other cases.

6. The supreme court shall hold one term annually in each of the aforesaid grand divisions, at such time and place, in each of said divisions, as may be provided for by law.

7. The state shall be divided into nine judicial districts; in each of which one circuit judge shall be elected by the qualified electors thereof, who shall hold his office for the term of six years, and until his successor shall be commissioned and qualified: *Provided*, that the general assembly may increase the number of circuits to meet the future exigencies of the state.

8. There shall be two or more terms of the circuit court held, annually, in each county of this state, at such times as shall be provided by law; and said courts shall have jurisdiction in all cases at law and equity, and in all cases of appeals from all inferior courts.

9. All vacancies in the supreme and circuit courts shall be filled by election as aforesaid: *Provided, however*, that if the unexpired term does not exceed one year, such vacancy may be filled by executive appointment.

10. The judges of the supreme court shall receive a salary of twelve hundred dollars per annum, payable quarterly, and no more. The judges of the circuit courts shall receive a salary of one thousand dollars per annum, payable quarterly, and no more. The judges of the supreme and circuit courts shall not be eligible to any other office or public trust, of profit, in this state or the United States, during the term for which they are elected, nor for one year thereafter. All votes for either of them for any elective office (except that of judge of the supreme or circuit court), given by the general assembly, or the people, shall be void.

11. No person shall be eligible to the office of judge of any court of this state who is not a citizen of the United States, and who shall not have resided in this state five years next preceding his election, and who shall not for two years next preceding his election have resided in the division, circuit, or county, in which he shall be elected; nor shall any person be elected judge of the supreme court who shall be, at the time of his election, under the age of thirty-five years; and



no person shall be eligible to the office of judge of the circuit court until he shall have attained the age of thirty years.

12. For any reasonable cause, to be entered on the journals of each house, which shall not be sufficient ground for impeachment, both justices of the supreme court, and judges of the circuit court, shall be removed from office, on the vote of two-thirds of the members elected to each branch of the general assembly: *Provided, always*, that no member of either house of the general assembly shall be eligible to fill the vacancy occasioned by such removal: *Provided, also*, that no removal shall be made unless the justice or judge complained of shall have been served with a copy of the complaint against him, and shall have an opportunity of being heard in his defence.

13. The first election for justices of the supreme court and judges of the circuit courts shall be held on the first Monday of September, 1848.

14. The second election for one justice of the supreme court shall be held on the first Monday of June, 1852; and every three years thereafter an election shall be held for one justice of the supreme court.

15. On the first Monday of June, 1855, and every sixth year thereafter, an election shall be held for judges of the circuit courts: *Provided*, whenever an additional circuit is created, such provision may be made as to hold the second election of such additional judge at the regular elections herein provided.

16. There shall be, in each county, a court, to be called a county court.

17. One county judge shall be elected by the qualified voters of each county, who shall hold his office for four years, and until his successor is elected and qualified.

18. The jurisdiction of said court shall extend to all probate and such other jurisdiction as the general assembly may confer in civil cases, and such criminal cases as may be prescribed by law, where the punishment is by fine only, not exceeding one hundred dollars.

19. The county judge, with such justices of the peace in each county as may be designated by law, shall hold terms for the transaction of county business, and shall perform such other duties as the general assembly shall prescribe: *Provided*, the general assembly may require that two justices, to be chosen by the qualified electors of each county, shall sit with the county judge in all cases; and there shall be elected, quadrennially, in each county, a clerk of the county court, who shall be *ex officio* recorder, whose compensation shall be fees: *Provided*, the general assembly may, by law, make the clerk of the circuit court *ex officio* recorder, in lieu of the county clerk.

20. The general assembly shall provide for the compensation of the county judge.

21. The clerks of the supreme and circuit courts, and state's attorneys, shall be elected at the first special election for judges. The second election for clerks of the supreme court shall be held on the first Monday of June, 1855, and every sixth year thereafter. The second election for clerks of the circuit courts, and state's attorneys, shall be held on the Tuesday next after the first Monday of November, 1852, and every fourth year thereafter.

22. All judges and state's attorneys shall be commissioned by the governor.

23. The election of all officers, and the filling of all vacancies that may happen by death, resignation, or removal, not otherwise directed or provided for by this constitution, shall be made in such manner as the general assembly shall direct: *Provided*, that no such officer shall be elected by the general assembly.

24. The general assembly may authorize the judgments, decrees, and decisions, of any local, inferior court of record, of original, civil, or criminal jurisdiction, established in a city, to be removed, for revision, directly into the supreme court.

25. County judges, clerks, sheriffs, and other county officers, for wilful neglect of duty, or misdemeanor in office, shall be liable to presentment or indictment by a grand jury, and trial by a petit jury; and, upon conviction, shall be removed from office.

26. All process, writs, and other proceedings, shall run in the name of "*The people of the State of Illinois.*" All prosecutions shall be carried on "*In the name and by the authority of the people of the State of Illinois,*" and conclude, "*Against the peace and dignity of the same.*"

27. There shall be elected in each county in this state, in such districts as the general assembly may direct, by the qualified electors thereof, a competent number of justices of the peace, who shall hold their offices for the term of four years, and until their successors shall have been elected and qualified, and who shall perform such duties, receive such compensation, and exercise such jurisdiction, as may be prescribed by law.

28. There shall be elected in each of the judicial circuits of this state, by the qualified electors thereof, one state's attorney, who shall hold his office for the term of four years, and until his successors shall be commissioned and qualified; who shall perform such duties and receive such compensation as may be prescribed by law: *Provided*, that the general assembly may hereafter provide by law for the election, by the qualified voters of each county in this state, of one county attorney for each county, in lieu of the state's attorneys provided for in this section; the term of office, duties, and compensation, of which county attorneys, shall be regulated by law.

29. The qualified electors of each county in this state shall elect a clerk of the circuit court, who shall hold his office for the term of four years, and until his successor shall have been elected and qualified, who shall perform such duties and receive such compensation as may be prescribed by law. The clerks of the supreme court shall be elected, in each division, by the qualified electors thereof, for the term of six years, and until their successors shall have been elected and qualified; whose duties and compensation shall be provided by law.

30. The first grand division, for the election of judges of the supreme court, shall consist of the counties of Alexander, Pulaski, Massac, Pope, Hardin, Gallatin, Saline, Williamson, Johnson, Union, Jackson, Randolph, Perry, Franklin, Hamilton, White, Wabash, Edwards, Wayne, Jefferson, Washington, Monroe, St. Clair, Clinton, Marion, Clay, Richland, Lawrence, Crawford, Jasper, Effingham, Fayette, Bond, Madison, Jersey, and Calhoun.

The second grand division shall consist of the counties of Edgar, Coles, Moultrie, Shelby, Montgomery, Macoupin, Greene, Pike, Adams, Highland, Hancock, M'Donough, Schuyler, Brown, Fulton, Mason, Cass, Morgan, Scott, Sangamon, Christian, Macon, Piatt, Champaign, Vermilion, De Witt, Logan, Menard, Cumberland, and Clark.

The third grand division shall consist of the counties of Henderson, Warren, Knox, Peoria, Tazewell, Woodford, M'Lean, Livingston, Iroquois, Will, Grundy, Kendall, La Salle, Putnam, Marshall, Stark, Bureau, Henry, Mercer, Rock Island, Whiteside, Lee, Carroll, Jo Daviess, Stephenson, Winnebago, Ogle, De Kalb, Boone, Kane, M'Henry, Lake, Cook, and Du Page.

31. The terms of the supreme court for the first division shall be held at Mount Vernon, in Jefferson county; for the second division, at Springfield, in Sangamon county; for the third division, at Ottawa, in La Salle county; until some other place in either division is fixed by law.

32. Appeals and writs of error may be taken from the circuit court of any county to the supreme court held in the division which includes such county, or, with the consent of all the parties in the cause, to the supreme court in the next adjoining division.

33. The foregoing districts may, after the taking of each census by the state, be altered, if necessary, to equalize the said districts in population; but such alteration shall be made by adding to such district such adjacent county or counties as will make said district nearest equal in population: *Provided*, no such alteration shall affect the office of any judge then in office.



ARTICLE VI.—*On Elections and the Right of Suffrage.*

SEC. 1. In all elections, every white male citizen above the age of twenty-one years, having resided in the state one year next preceding any election, shall be entitled to vote at such election; and every white male inhabitant of the age aforesaid, who may be a resident of the state at the time of the adoption of this constitution, shall have the right of voting as aforesaid; but no such citizen or inhabitant shall be entitled to vote, except in the district or county in which he shall actually reside at the time of such election.

2. All votes shall be given by ballot.

3. Electors shall in all cases, except treason, felony, or breach of the peace, be privileged from arrest during their attendance at elections, and in going to and returning from the same.

4. No elector shall be obliged to do militia duty on the days of election, except in time of war or public danger.

5. No elector shall be deemed to have lost his residence in this state by reason of his absence on the business of the United States or of this state.

6. No soldier, seaman, or marine, in the army or navy of the United States, shall be deemed a resident of this state, in consequence of being stationed at any military or naval place within the state.

7. No person shall be elected or appointed to any office in this state, civil or military, who is not a citizen of the United States, and who shall not have resided in this state one year next before the election or appointment.

8. The general assembly shall have full power to pass laws excluding from the right of suffrage persons convicted of infamous crimes.

9. The general elections shall be held on the Tuesday next after the first Monday of November, biennially, until otherwise provided by law.

ARTICLE VII.—*Of Counties.*

SEC. 1. No new county shall be formed or established by the general assembly, which will reduce the county or counties, or either of them, from which it shall be taken, to less contents than four hundred square miles; nor shall any county be formed of less contents; nor shall any line thereof pass within less than ten miles of any county-seat of the county or counties proposed to be divided.

2. No county shall be divided, or have any part stricken therefrom, without submitting the question to a vote of the people of the county, nor unless a majority of all the legal voters of the county voting on the question shall vote for the same.

3. All territory which has been or may be stricken off, by legislative enactment, from any organized county or counties, for the purpose of forming a new county, and which shall remain unorganized after the period provided for such organization, shall be and remain a part of the county or counties from which it was originally taken, for all purposes of county and state government, until otherwise provided by law.

4. There shall be no territory stricken from any county unless a majority of the voters living in such territory shall petition for such division; and no territory shall be added to any county without the consent of a majority of the voters of the county to which it is proposed to be added.

5. No county-seat shall be removed until the point to which it is proposed to be removed shall be fixed by law, and a majority of the voters of the county shall have voted in favor of its removal to such point.

6. The general assembly shall provide, by a general law, for a township organization, under which any county may organize whenever a majority of the voters of such county, at any general election, shall so determine; and whenever any county shall adopt a township organization, so much of this constitution as provides for the management of the fiscal concerns of the said county by the county

court may be dispensed with, and the affairs of said county may be transacted in such manner as the general assembly may provide.

7. There shall be elected in each county in this state, by the qualified electors thereof, a sheriff, who shall hold his office for the term of two years, and until his successor shall have been elected and qualified: *Provided*, no person shall be eligible to the said office more than once in four years.

#### ARTICLE VIII.—*Militia.*

SEC. 1. The militia of the state of Illinois shall consist of all free male able-bodied persons (negroes, mulattoes, and Indians excepted), resident of the state, between the ages of eighteen and forty-five years, except such persons as now are or hereafter may be exempted by the laws of the United States or of this state, and shall be armed, equipped, and trained, as the general assembly may provide by law.

2. No person or persons, conscientiously scrupulous of bearing arms, shall be compelled to do militia duty in time of peace, provided such person or persons shall pay an equivalent for such exemption.

3. Company, battalion, and regimental officers, staff-officers excepted, shall be elected by the persons composing their several companies, battalions, and regiments.

4. Brigadier and major generals shall be elected by the officers of their brigades and divisions, respectively.

5. All militia officers shall be commissioned by the governor, and may hold their commissions for such time as the legislature may provide.

6. The militia shall in all cases, except treason, felony, or breach of the peace, be privileged from arrest during their attendance at musters and elections of officers, and in going to and returning from the same.

#### ARTICLE IX.—*Of the Revenue.*

SEC. 1. The general assembly may, whenever they shall deem it necessary, cause to be collected from all able-bodied, free white male inhabitants of this state, over the age of twenty-one years and under the age of sixty years, who are entitled to the right of suffrage, a capitation tax of not less than fifty cents, nor more than one dollar each.

2. The general assembly shall provide for levying a tax by valuation, so that every person and corporation shall pay a tax in proportion to the value of his or her property; such value to be ascertained by some person or persons to be elected or appointed in such manner as the general assembly shall direct, and not otherwise; but the general assembly shall have power to tax pedlars, auctioneers, brokers, hawkers, merchants, commission merchants, showmen, jugglers, inn-keepers, grocery-keepers, toll-bridges and ferries, and persons using and exercising franchises and privileges, in such manner as they shall from time to time direct.

3. The property of the state and counties, both real and personal, and such other property as the general assembly may deem necessary for school, religious, and charitable purposes, may be exempted from taxation.

4. Hereafter, no purchaser of any land or town-lot, at any sale of lands or town-lots for taxes due either to this state, or any county, or incorporated town or city within the same; or at any sale for taxes or levies authorized by the laws of this state, shall be entitled to a deed for the lands or town-lot so purchased until he or she shall have complied with the following conditions, to wit: Such purchaser shall serve, or cause to be served, a written notice of such purchase on every person in possession of such land or town-lot, three months before the expiration of the time of redemption on such sale; in which notice he shall state when he purchased the land or town-lot, the description of the land or lot he has purchased, and when the time of redemption will expire. In like manner he shall serve on the person or persons in whose name or names such



land or lot is taxed, a similar written notice, if such person or persons shall reside in the county where such land or lot shall be situated; and in the event that the person or persons in whose name or names the land or lot is taxed do not reside in the county, such purchaser shall publish such notice in some newspaper printed in such county; and if no newspaper is printed in the county, then in the nearest newspaper that is published in this state to the county in which such lot or land is situated; which notice shall be inserted three times, the last time not less than three months before the time of redemption shall expire. Every such purchaser, by himself or agent, shall, before he shall be entitled to a deed, make an affidavit of his having complied with the conditions of this section, stating particularly the facts relied on as such compliance; which affidavit shall be delivered to the person authorized by law to execute such tax deed, and which shall by him be filed with the officer having custody of the records of lands and lots sold for taxes and entries of redemption in the county where such land or lot shall lie, to be by such officer entered on the records of his office and carefully preserved among the files of his office; and which record or affidavit shall be *prima-facie* evidence that such notice has been given. Any person swearing falsely in such affidavit shall be deemed guilty of perjury, and punished accordingly. In case any person shall be compelled under this section to publish a notice in a newspaper, then, before any person who may have a right to redeem such land or lot from tax sale, shall be permitted to redeem, he or she shall pay the officer or person who by law is authorized to receive such redemption-money, the printer's fee for publishing such notice and the expenses of swearing or affirming to the affidavit, and filing the same.

5. The corporate authorities of counties, townships, school districts, cities, towns, and villages, may be vested with power to assess and collect taxes for corporate purposes; such taxes to be uniform in respect to persons and property within the jurisdiction of the body imposing the same. And the general assembly shall require that all the property within the limits of municipal corporations belonging to individuals shall be taxed for the payment of debts contracted under authority of law.

6. The specification of the objects and subjects of taxation shall not deprive the general assembly of the power to require other objects or subjects to be taxed in such manner as may be consistent with the principles of taxation fixed in this constitution.

#### ARTICLE X.—Corporations.

SEC. 1. Corporations, not possessing banking powers or privileges, may be formed under general laws, but shall not be created by special acts, except for municipal purposes, and in cases where, in the judgment of the general assembly, the objects of the corporation cannot be attained under general laws.

2. Dues from corporations, not possessing banking powers or privileges, shall be secured by such individual liabilities of the corporators, or other means, as may be prescribed by law.

3. No state bank shall hereafter be created, nor shall the state own or be liable for any stock in any corporation or joint-stock association for banking purposes, to be hereafter created.

4. The stockholders in every corporation, or joint-stock association for banking purposes, issuing bank-notes, or any kind of paper credits to circulate as money, shall be individually responsible, to the amount of their respective share or shares of stock in any such corporation or association, for all its debts and liabilities of every kind.

5. No act of the general assembly, authorizing corporations or associations with banking powers, shall go into effect, or in any manner be in force, unless the same shall be submitted to the people at the general election next succeeding the passage of the same, and be approved by a majority of all the votes cast at such election for and against such law.

6. The general assembly shall encourage internal improvements, by passing liberal general laws of incorporation for that purpose.

ARTICLE XI.—*Commons.*

All lands which have been granted, as a "common," to the inhabitants of any town, hamlet, village, or corporation, by any person, body politic or corporate, or by any government having power to make such grant, shall for ever remain common to the inhabitants of such town, hamlet, village, or corporation; but the said commons, or any of them, or any part thereof, may be divided, leased, or granted, in such manner as may hereafter be provided by law, on petition of a majority of the qualified voters interested in such commons or any of them.

ARTICLE XII.—*Amendments to the Constitution.*

SEC. 1. Whenever two-thirds of all the members elected to each branch of the general assembly shall think it necessary to alter or amend this constitution, they shall recommend to the electors at the next election of members of the general assembly, to vote for or against a convention; and if it shall appear that a majority of all the electors of the state voting for representatives have voted for a convention, the general assembly shall, at their next session, call a convention, to consist of as many members as the house of representatives at the time of making said call, to be chosen in the same manner, at the same place, and by the same electors, in the same districts that chose the members of the house of representatives; and which convention shall meet within three months after the said election, for the purpose of revising, altering, or amending this constitution.

2. Any amendment or amendments to this constitution may be proposed in either branch of the general assembly; and if the same shall be agreed to by two-thirds of all the members elect in each of the two houses, such proposed amendment or amendments shall be referred to the next regular session of the general assembly, and shall be published at least three months previous to the time of holding the next election for members of the house of representatives; and if, at the next regular session of the general assembly after said election, a majority of all the members elect in each branch of the general assembly shall agree to said amendment or amendments, then it shall be their duty to submit the same to the people at the next general election for their adoption or rejection, in such manner as may be prescribed by law; and if a majority of all the electors voting at such election for members of the house of representatives shall vote for such amendment or amendments, the same shall become a part of the constitution. But the general assembly shall not have power to propose an amendment or amendments to more than one article of the constitution at the same session.

ARTICLE XIII.—*Declaration of Rights.*

That the general, great, and essential principles of liberty and free government may be recognised and unalterably established, WE DECLARE:—

SEC. 1. That all men are born equally free and independent, and have certain inherent and indefeasible rights; among which are those of enjoying and defending life and liberty, and of acquiring, possessing, and protecting property and reputation, and of pursuing their own happiness.

2. That all power is inherent in the people, and all free governments are founded on their authority, and instituted for their peace, safety, and happiness.

3. That all men have a natural and indefeasible right to worship Almighty God according to the dictates of their own consciences; that no man can of right be compelled to attend, erect, or support any place of worship, or to maintain any ministry, against his consent; that no human authority can, in any case whatever, control or interfere with the rights of conscience; and that no preference shall ever be given by law to any religious establishments or modes of worship.



4. That no religious test shall ever be required as a qualification to any office of public trust under this state.

5. That all elections shall be free and equal.

6. That the right of trial by jury shall remain inviolate ; and shall extend to all cases at law, without regard to the amount in controversy.

7. That the people shall be secure in their persons, houses, papers, and possessions, from unreasonable searches and seizures ; and that general warrants, whereby an officer may be commanded to search suspected places without evidence of the fact committed, or to seize any person or persons not named, whose offences are not particularly described and supported by evidence, are dangerous to liberty, and ought not to be granted.

8. That no freeman shall be imprisoned, or disseized of his freehold, liberties, or privileges, or outlawed or exiled, or in any manner deprived of his life, liberty, or property, but by the judgment of his peers, or the law of the land.

9. That in all criminal prosecutions, the accused hath a right to be heard by himself and counsel ; to demand the nature and cause of the accusation against him ; to meet the witnesses face to face ; to have compulsory process to compel the attendance of witnesses in his favor ; and in prosecutions by indictment or information, a speedy public trial by an impartial jury of the county or district wherein the offence shall have been committed, which county or district shall have been previously ascertained by law ; and that he shall not be compelled to give evidence against himself.

10. No person shall be held to answer for a criminal offence unless on the presentment or indictment of a grand jury, except in cases of impeachment, or in cases cognizable by justices of the peace, or arising in the army or navy, or in the militia when in actual service in time of war or public danger : *Provided*, that justices of the peace shall try no person, except as a court of inquiry, for any offence punishable with imprisonment or death, or fine above one hundred dollars.

11. No person shall, for the same offence, be twice put in jeopardy of his life or limb ; nor shall any man's property be taken or applied to public use without the consent of his representatives in the general assembly, nor without just compensation being made to him.

12. Every person within this state ought to find a certain remedy in the laws for all injuries or wrongs which he may receive in his person, property, or character ; he ought to obtain right and justice freely, and without being obliged to purchase it, completely and without denial, promptly and without delay, conformably to the laws.

13. That all persons shall be bailable by sufficient sureties, unless for capital offences where the proof is evident or the presumption great ; and the privilege of the writ of *habeas corpus* shall not be suspended, unless, when in cases of rebellion or invasion, the public safety may require it.

14. All penalties shall be proportioned to the nature of the offence ; the true design of all punishment being to reform, not to exterminate mankind.

15. No person shall be imprisoned for debt, unless upon refusal to deliver up his estate for the benefit of his creditors, in such manner as shall be prescribed by law, or in cases where there is strong presumption of fraud.

16. There shall be neither slavery nor involuntary servitude in this state, except as a punishment for crime whereof the party shall have been duly convicted.

17. No *ex-post-facto* law, nor any law impairing the obligation of contracts, shall ever be made ; and no conviction shall work corruption of blood or forfeiture of estate.

18. That no person shall be liable to be transported out of this state for any offence committed within the same.

19. That a frequent recurrence to the fundamental principles of civil government is absolutely necessary to preserve the blessings of liberty.

20. The military shall be in strict subordination to the civil power.

21. That the people have a right to assemble together in a peaceable manner to consult for their common good, to instruct their representatives, and to apply to the general assembly for redress of grievances.

22. No soldier shall, in time of peace, be quartered in any house without the consent of the owner; nor in time of war, except in manner prescribed by law.

23. The printing-presses shall be free to every person who undertakes to examine the proceedings of the general assembly, or of any branch of government; and no law shall ever be made to restrain the right thereof. The free communication of thoughts and opinions is one of the invaluable rights of man; and every citizen may freely speak, write, and print, on any subject, being responsible for the abuse of that liberty.

24. In prosecutions for the publication of papers investigating the official conduct of officers, or of men acting in a public capacity, or when the matter published is proper for public information, the truth thereof may be given in evidence; and in all indictments for libels, the jury shall have the right of determining both the law and the fact, under the direction of the court, as in other cases.

25. Any person who shall, after the adoption of this constitution, fight a duel, or send or accept a challenge for that purpose, or be aider or abettor in fighting a duel, shall be deprived of the right of holding any office of honor or profit in this state, and shall be punished otherwise, in such manner as is or may be prescribed by law.

26. That from and after the adoption of this constitution, every person who shall be elected or appointed to any office of profit, trust, or emolument, civil or military, legislative, executive, or judicial, under the government of this state, shall, before he enters upon the duties of his office, in addition to the oath prescribed in this constitution, take the following oath: "I do solemnly swear [or affirm, as the case may be] that I have not fought a duel, nor sent or accepted a challenge to fight a duel, the probable issue of which might have been the death of either party, nor been a second to either party, nor in any manner aided or assisted in such duel, nor been knowingly the bearer of such challenge or acceptance, since the adoption of the constitution; and that I will not be so engaged or concerned, directly or indirectly, in or about any such duel, during my continuance in office. So help me, God."

#### ARTICLE XIV.—*Public Debt.*

There shall be annually assessed and collected, in the same manner as other state revenue may be assessed and collected, a tax of two mills upon each dollar's worth of taxable property, in addition to all other taxes, to be applied as follows, to wit: The fund so created shall be kept separate, and shall annually, on the first day of January, be apportioned and paid over, *pro rata*, upon all such state indebtedness, other than the canal and school indebtedness, as may, for that purpose, be presented by the holders of the same, to be entered as credits upon, and, to that extent, in extinguishment of the principal of said indebtedness.



## SCHEDULE.

That no inconvenience may arise from the alterations and amendments made in the constitution of this state, and to carry the same into complete effect, it is hereby ordained and declared :

SEC. 1. That all laws in force at the adoption of this constitution, not inconsistent therewith, and all rights, actions, prosecutions, claims, and contracts of this state, individuals or bodies corporate, shall continue and be as valid as if this constitution had not been adopted.

2. That all fines, penalties, and forfeitures due and owing to the state of Illinois under the present constitution and laws, shall enure to the use of the people of the state of Illinois under this constitution.

3. Recognizances, bonds, obligations, and all other instruments entered into or executed, before the adoption of this constitution, to the people of the state of Illinois, to any state or county officer or public body, shall remain binding and valid, and rights and liabilities upon the same shall continue, and all crimes and misdemeanors shall be tried and punished as though no change had been made in the constitution of the state.

4. That "article XI," entitled "Commons," is hereby adopted as a part of the constitution of this state, without being submitted to be voted upon by the people.

5. That at the first election fixed by this constitution for the election of judges, there shall be elected one circuit judge in each of the nine judicial circuits now established in this state.

6. The county commissioners' courts and the probate justices of the several counties, shall continue in existence and exercise their present jurisdiction, until the county court, provided in this constitution, is organized in pursuance of an act of the general assembly to be passed at its first session.

7. That the clerk of the circuit court, in each county fixed by this constitution as the place for holding the supreme court, except in the county of Sangamon, shall be *ex-officio* clerk of the supreme court, until the clerks of said court shall be elected and qualified, as provided in this constitution, and all laws now in force, in relation to the clerk of the supreme court, shall be applicable to said clerks and their duties.

8. That the sheriffs, state attorneys, and all other officers elected under this constitution shall perform such duties as shall be prescribed by law.

9. That the oaths of office herein required to be taken, may be administered by a justice of the peace until otherwise provided for by law.

10. That this constitution shall be submitted to the people for their adoption or rejection at an election to be held on the first Monday in March, A. D. 1848, and there shall also be submitted for adoption or rejection at the same time, the separate articles in relation to the emigration of colored persons and the public debt.\*

11. That every person entitled to vote for members of the general assembly, by the constitution and laws now in force, shall on the first Monday in March, A. D. 1848, be entitled to vote for the adoption or rejection of this constitution, and for and against the aforesaid articles separately submitted, and the said qualified electors shall vote in the counties in which they respectively reside, at the usual places of voting, and not elsewhere; and the said election shall be conducted according to the laws now in force in relation to the election of governor, so far as applicable, except as herein otherwise provided.

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\* The article relating to the Public Debt was *adopted*, and has, therefore, been appended to the Constitution as Article XIV.; that on the Emigration of colored Persons was *rejected*; it was as follows:—

"The general assembly shall, at its first session under the amended constitution, pass such laws as will effectually prohibit free persons of color from immigrating to and settling in this state; and to effectually prevent the owners of slaves from bringing them into this state, for the purpose of setting them free."

12. [As this section merely gave the form of pool-book to be used when the constitution was submitted to the people, it is omitted, the event having passed.]

13. That the returns of the votes for the adoption or rejection of this constitution, and for and against the separate articles submitted, shall be made to the secretary of state within fifty days after the election, and the returns of the votes shall, within five days thereafter, be examined and canvassed by the auditor, treasurer and secretary of state, or any two of them, in the presence of the governor, and proclamation shall be made by the governor forthwith of the result of the polls. If it shall appear, that a majority of all the votes polled are for the adoption of this constitution, it shall be the supreme law of the land, from and after the first day of April, A. D. 1848, but if it shall appear that a majority of the votes polled, were given against the constitution, the same shall be null and void. If it shall further appear that a majority of the votes polled, shall have been given for the separate article in relation to colored persons, or the article for the two mill tax, then said article, or articles, shall be and form a part of this constitution, otherwise said article, or articles, shall be null and void.

14. That if this constitution shall be ratified by the people, the governor shall forthwith, after having ascertained the fact, issue writs of election to the sheriffs of the several counties in this state; or, in case of vacancy, to the coroners, for the election of all the officers, the time of whose election is fixed by this constitution, or schedule; and it shall be the duty of said sheriffs or coroners, to give at least twenty days' notice of the time and place of said election, in the manner now prescribed by law.

15. The general assembly shall, at its first session after the adoption of this constitution, provide by law for the mode of voting by ballot, and also for the manner of returning, canvassing, and certifying the number of votes cast at any election; and until said law shall be passed, all elections shall be *viva voce*, and the laws now in force regulating elections shall continue in force until the general assembly shall provide otherwise, as herein directed.

16. That the first general election of governor, secretary of state, auditor, treasurer, and members of the general assembly, and of such other officers as are to be elected at the same time, shall be held on the first Monday of August, eighteen hundred and forty-eight, anything in this constitution to the contrary notwithstanding. County officers then elected shall hold their respective offices, until their successors are elected or appointed, in conformity with laws hereafter enacted.

17. That returns of the election of justices of the supreme and judges of the circuit courts, secretary of state, auditor, and treasurer, shall be made and canvassed, as is now provided by law for representatives in congress; and returns for members of the general assembly and county officers shall be made and canvassed as is now provided by law.

18. That all laws of the state of Illinois, and all official writings, and the executive, legislative, and judicial proceedings, shall be conducted, preserved, and published in no other than the English language.

19. On the first Monday in December, one thousand eight hundred and forty-eight, the term of office of judges of the supreme court, state's attorneys, and of the clerks of the supreme and circuit courts, shall expire; and on the said day, the term of office of the judges, state's attorneys, and clerks elected under the provisions of this constitution, shall commence. The judges of the supreme court, elected as aforesaid, shall have and exercise the powers and jurisdiction conferred upon the present judges of that court; and the said judges of the circuit courts shall have and exercise the powers and jurisdictions conferred upon the judges of those courts, subject to the provisions of this constitution.

20. On the first Monday of December, one thousand eight hundred and forty-eight, jurisdiction of all suits and proceedings, then pending in the present supreme court shall become vested in the supreme court established by this constitution, and shall be finally adjudicated by the court where the same may be



pending. The jurisdiction of all suits and proceedings then pending in circuit courts of the several counties shall be vested in the circuit courts of said counties.

21. The Cook and Jo Daviess county courts shall continue to exist, and the judge and other officers of the same remain in office, until otherwise provided by law.

22. Until otherwise provided by law, the terms of the supreme court shall be held as follows: In the first division, on the first Monday of December, A. D. 1848, and annually thereafter. In the second division, on the third Monday of December, A. D. 1848, and annually thereafter. In the third division, on the first Monday of February A. D. 1849, and annually thereafter. The sheriffs of Jefferson and La Salle counties shall perform the same duties, and receive the same compensation as is required and provided for the sheriff of Sangamon county, until otherwise provided by law.

23. Nothing in this constitution shall prevent the general assembly from passing such laws in relation to the apprenticeship of minors, during their minority, as may be necessary and proper.

24. That the general assembly shall pass all laws necessary to carry into effect the provisions of this constitution.

25. Elections of judges of the supreme and circuit courts shall be subject to be contested.

26. Contested elections of judges of the supreme court shall be tried by the senate, and of judges of the circuit court by the supreme court, and the general assembly shall prescribe the manner of proceeding therein.

DONE in Convention, at the Capitol, in the city of Springfield, on the thirty-first day of August, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and forty-seven, and of the Independence of the United States of America, the seventy-second.

NEWTON CLOUD, *President.*

HENRY W. MOORE, *Secretary.*

HARMAN G. REYNOLDS, *Assistant Secretary.*

## MICHIGAN.



MICHIGAN was settled by the French as early as 1650. In 1763, it was ceded to England, and at the close of the Revolutionary War, it was ceded by Great Britain to the United States, though they held possession of Detroit till 1796, when it was surrendered to the United States. In 1805, a territorial government was formed. The British gained a temporary possession of this territory in 1812-13, but it was soon recovered by the Americans, under Gen. William H. Harrison. In 1836, Michigan became a State, and was admitted into the Union. The present Constitution was adopted in 1850.

Area, 28,000 sq. m. Pop. in 1850, 397,654.

## CONSTITUTION.

### ARTICLE I.—*Boundaries.*

The State of Michigan consists of and has jurisdiction over the territory embraced within the following boundaries, to wit: Commencing at a point on the eastern boundary line of the State of Indiana, where a direct line drawn from the southern extremity of Lake Michigan to the most northerly cape of the Maumee Bay shall intersect the same—said point being the north-west corner of the State of Ohio, as established by act of Congress, entitled "an act to establish the northern boundary line of the State of Ohio, and to provide for the admission of the State of Michigan into the Union upon the conditions therein expressed," approved June fifteenth, one thousand



eight hundred and thirty-six; thence with the said boundary line of the State of Ohio till it intersects the boundary line between the United States and Canada in Lake Erie; thence with said boundary line between the United States and Canada through the Detroit river, Lake Huron and Lake Superior, to a point where the said line last touches Lake Superior; thence in a direct line through Lake Superior to the mouth of the Montreal river; thence through the middle of the main channel of the said river Montreal to the head waters thereof; thence in a direct line to the centre of the channel between Middle and South Islands in the Lake of the Desert; thence in a direct line to the southern shore of Lake Brule; thence along said southern shore and down the river Brule to the main channel of the Menominie river; thence down the centre of the main channel of the same to the centre of the most usual ship channel of the Green Bay of Lake Michigan; thence through the centre of the most usual ship channel of the said bay to the middle of Lake Michigan; thence through the middle of Lake Michigan to the northern boundary of the State of Indiana, as that line was established by the act of Congress of the nineteenth of April, eighteen hundred and sixteen; thence due east with the north boundary line of the said State of Indiana to the northeast corner thereof; and thence south with the eastern boundary line of Indiana to the place of beginning.

#### ARTICLE II.—*Seat of Government.*

SEC. 1. The Seat of Government shall be at Lansing, where it is now established.

#### ARTICLE III.—*Division of the Powers of Government.*

SEC. 1. The powers of government are divided into three departments, the Legislative, Executive, and Judicial.

2. No person belonging to one department shall exercise the powers properly belonging to another, except in the cases expressly provided in this constitution.

#### ARTICLE IV.—*Legislative Department.*

SEC. 1. The legislative power is vested in a Senate and House of Representatives.

2. The Senate shall consist of thirty-two members. Senators shall be elected for two years, and by single districts. Such districts shall be numbered from one to thirty-two inclusive; each of which shall choose one senator. No county shall be divided in the formation of senate districts, except such county shall be equitably entitled to two or more senators.

3. The House of Representatives shall consist of not less than sixty-four, nor more than one hundred members. Representatives shall be chosen for two years, and by single districts. Each representative district shall contain, as nearly as may be, an equal num-

ber of white inhabitants, and civilized persons of Indian descent, not members of any tribe, and shall consist of convenient and contiguous territory. But no township or city shall be divided in the formation of a representative district. When any township or city shall contain a population which entitles it to more than one representative, then such township or city shall elect by general ticket the number of representatives to which it is entitled. Each county hereafter organized, with such territory as may be attached thereto, shall be entitled to a separate representative when it has attained a population equal to a moiety of the ratio of representation. In every county entitled to more than one representative, the board of supervisors shall assemble at such time and place as the Legislature shall prescribe, and divide the same into representative districts, equal to the number of representatives to which such county is entitled by law, and shall cause to be filed in the offices of the secretary of state and clerk of such county a description of such representative districts, specifying the number of each district, and the population thereof, according to the last preceding enumeration.

4. The Legislature shall provide by law for an enumeration of the inhabitants in the year eighteen hundred and fifty-four, and every ten years thereafter; and at the first session after each enumeration so made, and also at the first session after each enumeration by the authority of the United States, the Legislature shall re-arrange the senate districts, and apportion anew the representatives among the counties and districts, according to the number of white inhabitants and civilized persons of Indian descent, not members of any tribe. Each apportionment and the division into representative districts, by any board of supervisors, shall remain unaltered until the return of another enumeration.

5. Senators and representatives shall be citizens of the United States, and qualified electors in the respective counties and districts which they represent. A removal from their respective counties or districts shall be deemed a vacation of their office.

6. No person holding any office under the United States [or this state,] or any county office, except notaries public, officers of the militia and officers elected by townships, shall be eligible to or have a seat in either house of the Legislature, and all votes given for any such person shall be void.

7. Senators and representatives shall, in all cases, except treason, felony, or breach of the peace, be privileged from arrest. They shall not be subject to any civil process during the session of the Legislature, or for fifteen days next before the commencement and after the termination of each session. They shall not be questioned in any other place for any speech in either house.

8. A majority of each house shall constitute a quorum to do business; but a smaller number may adjourn from day to day, and compel the attendance of absent members, in such manner and under such penalties as each house may prescribe.



9. Each house shall choose its own officers, determine the rules of its proceedings, and judge of the qualifications, election and return of its members; and may, with the concurrence of two-thirds of all the members elected, expel a member. No member shall be expelled a second time for the same cause, nor for any cause known to his constituents antecedent to his election. The reason for such expulsion shall be entered upon the journal, with the names of the members voting on the question.

10. Each house shall keep a journal of its proceedings, and publish the same, except such parts as may require secrecy. The yeas and nays of the members of either house, on any question, shall be entered on the journal at the request of one-fifth of the members elected. Any member of either house may dissent from and protest against any act, proceeding or resolution which he may deem injurious to any person or the public, and have the reason of his dissent entered on the journal.

11. In all elections by either house or in joint convention the votes shall be given *viva voce*. All votes on nominations to the Senate shall be taken by yeas and nays, and published with the journal of its proceedings.

12. The doors of each house shall be open, unless the public welfare require secrecy. Neither house shall, without the consent of the other, adjourn for more than three days, nor to any other place than where the Legislature may then be in session.

13. Bills may originate in either house of the Legislature.

14. Every bill and concurrent resolution, except of adjournment, passed by the Legislature, shall be presented to the governor before it becomes a law. If he approve, he shall sign it; but if not, he shall return it with his objections to the house in which it originated, which shall enter the objections at large upon their journal, and reconsider it. On such reconsideration, if two-thirds of the members elected agree to pass the bill, it shall be sent, with the objections, to the other house, by which it shall be reconsidered. If approved by two-thirds of the members elected to that house, it shall become a law. In such case, the vote of both houses shall be determined by yeas and nays, and the names of the members voting for and against the bill shall be entered on the journals of each house respectively. If any bill be not returned by the governor within ten days, Sundays excepted, after it has been presented to him, the same shall become a law, in like manner as if he had signed it, unless the Legislature, by their adjournment, prevent its return; in which case it shall not become a law. The governor may approve, sign, and file in the office of the secretary of state, within five days after the adjournment of the Legislature, any act passed during the last five days of the session; and the same shall become a law.

15. The compensation of the members of the Legislature shall be three dollars a day for actual attendance and when absent on account of sickness, for the first sixty days of the session of the year one

thousand eight hundred and fifty-one, and for the first forty days of every subsequent session, and nothing thereafter. When convened in extra session their compensation shall be three dollars a day for the first twenty days, and nothing thereafter; and they shall legislate on no other subjects than those expressly stated in the governor's proclamation, or submitted to them by special message. They shall be entitled to ten cents and no more for every mile actually travelled, going to and returning from the place of meeting, on the usually travelled route; and for stationery and newspapers not exceeding five dollars for each member during any session. Each member shall be entitled to one copy of the laws, journals and documents of the Legislature of which he was a member; but shall not receive at the expense of the State, books, newspapers, or other perquisites of office, not expressly authorized by this constitution.

16. The Legislature may provide by law for the payment of postage on all mailable matter received by its members and officers during the sessions of the Legislature, but not on any sent or mailed by them.

17. The President of the Senate and the Speaker of the House of Representatives shall be entitled to the same per diem compensation and mileage as members of the Legislature, and no more.

18. No person elected a member of the Legislature shall receive any civil appointment within this State, or to the Senate of the United States, from the Governor, the Governor and Senate, from the Legislature, or any other State authority, during the term for which he is elected. All such appointments and all votes given for any person so elected for any such office or appointment, shall be void. No member of the Legislature shall be interested, directly or indirectly, in any contract with the State, or any county thereof, authorized by any law passed, during the time for which he is elected, nor for one year thereafter.

19. Every bill and joint resolution shall be read three times in each house, before the final passage thereof. No bill or joint resolution shall become a law without the concurrence of a majority of all the members elected to each house. On the final passage of all bills, the vote shall be by ayes and nays, and entered on the journal.

20. No law shall embrace more than one object, which shall be expressed in its title. No public act shall take effect or be in force until the expiration of ninety days from the end of the session at which the same is passed, unless the Legislature shall otherwise direct, by a two-thirds vote of the members elected to each house.

21. The Legislature shall not grant nor authorize extra compensation to any public officer, agent or contractor, after the service has been rendered or the contract entered into.

22. The Legislature shall provide by law that the furnishing of fuel and stationery for the use of the State, the printing and binding



the laws and journals, all blanks, paper and printing for the executive departments, and all other printing ordered by the Legislature, shall be let by contract to the lowest bidder or bidders, who shall give adequate and satisfactory security for the performance thereof. The Legislature shall prescribe by law the manner in which the State printing shall be executed, and the accounts rendered therefor; and shall prohibit all charges for constructive labor. They shall not rescind nor alter such contract, nor release the person nor persons taking the same, or his or their sureties, from the performance of any of the conditions of the contract. No member of the Legislature, nor officer of the State, shall be interested directly or indirectly in any such contract.

23. The Legislature shall not authorize, by private or special law, the sale or conveyance of any real estate belonging to any person; nor vacate, nor alter any road laid out by commissioners of highways, or any street in any city or village, or in any recorded town plat.

24. The Legislature may authorize the employment of a chaplain for the State prison; but no money shall be appropriated for the payment of any religious services in either house of the Legislature.

25. No law shall be revised, altered or amended by reference to its title only; but the act revised, and the section or sections of the act altered or amended, shall be re-enacted and published at length.

26. Divorces shall not be granted by the Legislature.

27. The Legislature shall not authorize any lottery, nor permit the sale of lottery tickets.

28. No new bill shall be introduced into either house during the last three days of the session, without the unanimous consent of the house in which it originates.

29. In case of a contested election, the person only shall receive from the State per diem compensation and mileage, who is declared to be entitled to a seat by the house in which the contest takes place.

30. No collector, holder, nor disburser of public moneys, shall have a seat in the Legislature, or be eligible to any office of trust or profit under this State, until he shall have accounted for and paid over, as provided by law, all sums for which he may be liable.

31. The Legislature shall not audit nor allow any private claim or account.

32. The Legislature, on the day of final adjournment, shall adjourn at twelve o'clock at noon.

33. The Legislature shall meet at the seat of government on the first Wednesday in February next, and on the first Wednesday in January of every second year thereafter, and at no other place or time, unless as provided in this constitution.

34. The election of senators and representatives, pursuant to the provisions of this constitution, shall be held on the Tuesday succeed-

ing the first Monday of November, in the year one thousand eight hundred and fifty-two, and on the Tuesday succeeding the first Monday of November of every second year thereafter.

35. The Legislature shall not establish a State paper. Every newspaper in the State which shall publish all the general laws of any session within forty days of their passage, shall be entitled to receive a sum not exceeding fifteen dollars therefor.

36. The Legislature shall provide for the speedy publication of all statute laws of a public nature, and of such judicial decisions as it may deem expedient. All laws and judicial decisions shall be free for publication by any person.

37. The Legislature may declare the cases in which any office shall be deemed vacant, and also the manner of filling the vacancy, where no provision is made for that purpose in this constitution.

38. The Legislature may confer upon organized townships, incorporated cities and villages, and upon the board of supervisors of the several counties, such powers of a local, legislative and administrative character as they may deem proper.

39. The Legislature shall pass no law to prevent any person from worshipping Almighty God according to the dictates of his own conscience, or to compel any person to attend, erect, or support any place of religious worship, or to pay tithes, taxes, or other rates for the support of any minister of the gospel or teacher of religion.

40. No money shall be appropriated or drawn from the treasury for the benefit of any religious sect or society, theological or religious seminary, nor shall property belonging to the State be appropriated for any such purposes.

41. The Legislature shall not diminish or enlarge the civil or political rights, privileges and capacities of any person on account of his opinion or belief concerning matters of religion.

42. No law shall ever be passed to restrain or abridge the liberty of speech or of the press; but every person may freely speak, write and publish his sentiments on all subjects, being responsible for the abuse of such right.

43. The Legislature shall pass no bill of attainder, ex-post facto law, or law impairing the obligation of contracts.

44. The privilege of the writ of habeas corpus remains, and shall not be suspended by the Legislature, except in case of rebellion or invasion the public safety require it.

45. The assent of two-thirds of the members elected to each house of the Legislature shall be requisite to every bill appropriating the public money or property for local or private purposes.

46. The Legislature may authorize a trial by a jury of a less number than twelve men.

47. The Legislature shall not pass any act authorizing the grant of license for the sale of ardent spirits or other intoxicating liquors.

48. The style of the laws shall be, "The People of the State of Michigan enact."



ARTICLE V.—*Executive Department.*

SEC. 1. The Executive power is vested in a governor, who shall hold his office for two years. A lieutenant governor shall be chosen for the same term.

2. No person shall be eligible to the office of governor or lieutenant governor who has not been five years a citizen of the United States, and a resident of this State two years next preceding his election; nor shall any person be eligible to either office who has not attained the age of thirty years.

3. The governor and lieutenant governor shall be elected at the times and places of choosing the members of the Legislature. The person having the highest number of votes for governor or lieutenant governor shall be elected. In case two or more persons shall have an equal and the highest number of votes for governor or lieutenant governor, the Legislature shall, by joint vote, choose one of such persons.

4. The governor shall be commander-in-chief of the military and naval forces, and may call out such forces to execute the laws, to suppress insurrections and to repel invasions.

5. He shall transact all necessary business with officers of government, and may require information, in writing, from the officers of the Executive department, upon any subject relating to the duties of their respective offices.

6. He shall take care that the laws be faithfully executed.

7. He may convene the Legislature on extraordinary occasions.

8. He shall give to the Legislature, and at the close of his official term to the next Legislature, information by message of the condition of the State, and recommend such measures to them as he shall deem expedient.

9. He may convene the Legislature at some other place when the seat of government becomes dangerous from disease or a common enemy.

10. He shall issue writs of election to fill such vacancies as occur in the Senate or House of Representatives.

11. He may grant reprieves, commutations and pardons after convictions, for all offences except treason and cases of impeachment, upon such conditions, and with such restrictions and limitations, as he may think proper, subject to regulations provided by law, relative to the manner of applying for pardons. Upon conviction for treason, he may suspend the execution of the sentence until the case shall be reported to the Legislature at its next session, when the Legislature shall either pardon, or commute the sentence, direct the execution of the sentence, or grant a further reprieve. He shall communicate to the Legislature at each session information of each case of reprieve, commutation or pardon granted, and the reasons therefor.

12. In case of the impeachment of the governor, his removal from office, death, inability, resignation, or absence from the State, the

powers and duties of the office shall devolve upon the lieutenant governor for the residue of the term, or until the disability ceases. When the governor shall be out of the State in time of war, at the head of a military force thereof, he shall continue commander-in-chief of all the military force of the State.

13. During a vacancy in the office of governor, if the lieutenant governor die, resign, be impeached, displaced, be incapable of performing the duties of his office, or absent from the State, the president *pro tempore* of the Senate shall act as governor until the vacancy be filled, or the disability cease.

14. The lieutenant governor shall, by virtue of his office, be president of the Senate. In committee of the whole he may debate all questions; and when there is an equal division, he shall give the casting vote.

15. No member of Congress, nor any person holding office under the United States, or this State, shall execute the office of governor.

16. No person elected governor or lieutenant governor shall be eligible to any office or appointment from the Legislature, or either house thereof, during the time for which he was elected. All votes for either of them, for any such office, shall be void.

17. The lieutenant [governor] and president of the Senate *pro tempore*, when performing the duties of governor, shall receive the same compensation as the governor.

18. All official acts of the governor, his approval of the laws excepted, shall be authenticated by the Great Seal of the State, which shall be kept by the secretary of state.

19. All commissions issued to persons holding office under the provisions of this constitution, shall be in the name and by the authority of the people of the State of Michigan, sealed with the Great Seal of the State, signed by the governor, and countersigned by the secretary of state.

#### ARTICLE VI.—*Judicial Department.*

SEC. 1. The judicial power is vested in one supreme court, in circuit courts, in probate courts, and in justices of the peace. Municipal courts of civil and criminal jurisdiction may be established by the Legislature in cities.

2. For the term of six years, and thereafter, until the Legislature otherwise provide, the judges of the several circuit courts shall be judges of the supreme court, four of whom shall constitute a quorum. A concurrence of three shall be necessary to a final decision. After six years the Legislature may provide by law for the organization of a supreme court, with the jurisdiction and powers prescribed in this constitution, to consist of one chief justice and three associate justices, to be chosen by the electors of the State. Such supreme court, when so organized, shall not be changed or discontinued by the Legislature for eight years thereafter. The judges thereof shall be so classified



that but one of them shall go out of office at the same time. Their term of office shall be eight years.

3. The supreme court shall have a general superintending control over all inferior courts, and shall have power to issue writs of error, habeas corpus, mandamus, quo warranto, procedendo, and other original and remedial writs, and to hear and determine the same. In all other cases it shall have appellate jurisdiction only.

4. Four terms of the supreme court shall be held annually, at such times and places as may be designated by law.

5. The supreme court shall, by general rules, establish, modify and amend the practice in such court and in the circuit courts, and simplify the same. The Legislature shall, as far as practicable, abolish distinctions between law and equity proceedings. The office of master in chancery is prohibited.

6. The State shall be divided into eight judicial circuits; in each of which the electors thereof shall elect one circuit judge, who shall hold his office for the term of six years, and until his successor is elected and qualified.

7. The Legislature may alter the limits of circuits, or increase the number of the same. No alteration or increase shall have the effect to remove a judge from office. In every additional circuit established the judge shall be elected by the electors of such circuit, and his term of office shall continue as provided in this constitution for judges of the circuit court.

8. The circuit courts shall have original jurisdiction in all matters civil and criminal, not excepted in this constitution, and not prohibited by law; and appellate jurisdiction from all inferior courts and tribunals, and a supervisory control of the same. They shall also have power to issue writs of habeas corpus, mandamus, injunction, quo warranto, certiorari, and other writs necessary to carry into effect their orders, judgments and decrees, and give them a general control over inferior courts and tribunals within their respective jurisdictions.

9. Each of the judges of the circuit courts shall receive a salary payable quarterly. They shall be ineligible to any other than a judicial office during the term for which they are elected, and for one year thereafter. All votes for any person elected such judge for any office other than judicial, given either by the Legislature or the people, shall be void.

10. The supreme court may appoint a reporter of its decisions. The decisions of the supreme court shall be in writing, and signed by the judges concurring therein. Any judge dissenting therefrom, shall give the reasons of such dissent in writing, under his signature. All such opinions shall be filed in the office of the clerk of the supreme court. The judges of the circuit court, within their respective jurisdictions, may fill vacancies in the office of county clerk and of prosecuting attorney; but no judge of the supreme court, or

circuit court, shall exercise any other power of appointment to public office.

11. A circuit court shall be held at least twice in each year in every county organized for judicial purposes, and four times in each year in counties containing ten thousand inhabitants. Judges of the circuit court may hold courts for each other, and shall do so when required by law.

12. The clerk of each county organized for judicial purposes shall be the clerk of the circuit court of such county, and of the supreme court when held within the same.

13. In each of the counties organized for judicial purposes, there shall be a court of probate. The judge of such court shall be elected by the electors of the county in which he resides, and shall hold his office for four years, and until his successor is elected and qualified. The jurisdiction, powers and duties of such court, shall be prescribed by law.

14. When a vacancy occurs in the office of judge of the supreme, circuit or probate court, it shall be filled by appointment of the governor, which shall continue until a successor is elected and qualified. When elected, such successor shall hold his office the residue of the unexpired term.

15. The supreme court, the circuit and probate courts of each county, shall be courts of record, and shall each have a common seal.

16. The Legislature may provide by law for the election of one or more persons in each organized county, who may be vested with judicial powers, not exceeding those of a judge of the circuit court at chambers.

17. There shall be not exceeding four justices of the peace in each organized township. They shall be elected by the electors of the townships, and shall hold their offices for four years, and until their successors are elected and qualified. At the first election in any township, they shall be classified as shall be prescribed by law. A justice elected to fill a vacancy shall hold his office for the residue of the unexpired term. The Legislature may increase the number of justices in cities.

18. In civil cases justices of the peace shall have exclusive jurisdiction to the amount of one hundred dollars, and concurrent jurisdiction to the amount of three hundred dollars, which may be increased to five hundred dollars, with such exceptions and restrictions as may be provided by law. They shall also have such criminal jurisdiction and perform such duties as shall be prescribed by the Legislature.

19. Judges of the supreme court, circuit judges, and justices of the peace, shall be conservators of the peace within their respective jurisdictions.

20. The first election of judges of the circuit courts shall be held on the first Monday in April, one thousand eight hundred and fifty-one, and every sixth year thereafter. Whenever an additional circuit



is created, provision shall be made to hold the subsequent election of such additional judges at the regular elections herein provided.

21. The first election of judges of the probate courts shall be held on the Tuesday succeeding the first Monday of November, one thousand eight hundred and fifty-two, and every fourth year thereafter.

22. Whenever a judge shall remove beyond the limits of the jurisdiction for which he was elected, or a justice of the peace from the township in which he was elected, or by a change in the boundaries of such township shall be placed without the same, they shall be deemed to have vacated their respective offices.

23. The Legislature may establish courts of conciliation, with such powers and duties as shall be prescribed by law.

24. Any suitor in any court of this State shall have the right to prosecute or defend his suit, either in his own proper person, or by an attorney or agent of his choice.

25. In all prosecutions for libels, the truth may be given in evidence to the jury; and if it shall appear to the jury that the matter charged as libellous is true, and was published with good motives and for justifiable ends, the party shall be acquitted. The jury shall have the right to determine the law and the fact.

26. The person, houses, papers, and possessions of every person shall be secure from unreasonable searches and seizures. No warrant to search any place, or to seize any person or things, shall issue without describing them, nor without probable cause, supported by oath or affirmation.

27. The right of trial by jury shall remain, but shall be deemed to be waived in all civil cases unless demanded by one of the parties, in such manner as shall be prescribed by law.

28. In every criminal prosecution, the accused shall have the right to a speedy and public trial by an impartial jury, which may consist of less than twelve men in all courts not of record; to be informed of the nature of the accusation; to be confronted with the witnesses against him; to have compulsory process for obtaining witnesses in his favor, and have the assistance of counsel for his defence.

29. No person, after acquittal upon the merits, shall be tried for the same offence; all persons shall, before conviction, be bailable by sufficient sureties, except for murder and treason, when the proof is evident or the presumption great.

30. Treason against the State shall consist only in levying war against, or in adhering to its enemies, giving them aid and comfort. No person shall be convicted of treason unless upon the testimony of two witnesses to the same overt act, or on confession in open court.

31. Excessive bail shall not be required; excessive fines shall not be imposed; cruel or unusual punishment shall not be inflicted, nor shall witnesses be unreasonably detained.

32. No person shall be compelled, in any criminal case, to be a witness against himself, nor be deprived of life, liberty, or property, without due process of law.

33. No person shall be imprisoned for debt arising out of, or founded on a contract, express or implied, except in cases of fraud or breach of trust, or of moneys collected by public officers or in any professional employment. No person shall be imprisoned for a militia fine in time of peace.

34. No person shall be rendered incompetent to be a witness on account of his opinions on matters of religious belief.

35. The style of all process shall be, "In the name of the people of the State of Michigan."

#### ARTICLE VII.—*Elections.*

SEC. 1. In all elections, every white male citizen, every white male inhabitant residing in the State on the twenty-fourth day of June, one thousand eight hundred and thirty-five; every white male inhabitant residing in this State on the first day of January, one thousand eight hundred and fifty, who has declared his intention to become a citizen of the United States, pursuant to the laws thereof, six months preceding an election, or who has resided in this State two years and six months, and declared his intention as aforesaid; and every civilized male inhabitant of Indian descent, a native of the United States and not a member of any tribe, shall be an elector and entitled to vote; but no citizen or inhabitant shall be an elector, or entitled to vote at any election, unless he shall be above the age of twenty-one years, and has resided in this State three months, and in the township or ward in which he offers to vote, ten days next preceding such election.

2. All votes shall be given by ballot, except for such township officers as may be authorized by law to be otherwise chosen.

3. Every elector, in all cases, except treason, felony, or breach of the peace, shall be privileged from arrest during his attendance at election, and in going to and returning from the same.

4. No elector shall be obliged to do militia duty on the day of election, except in time of war or public danger, or attend court as a suitor or witness.

5. No elector shall be deemed to have gained or lost a residence by reason of his being employed in the service of the United States, or of this State; nor while engaged in the navigation of the waters of this State or of the United States, or of the high seas; nor while a student of any seminary of learning; nor while kept at any almshouse or other asylum at public expense; nor while confined in any public prison.

6. Laws may be passed to preserve the purity of elections, and guard against abuses of the elective franchise.

7. No soldier, seaman, nor marine, in the army or navy of the United States, shall be deemed a resident of this State in conse-



quence of being stationed in any military or naval place within the same.

8. Any inhabitant who may hereafter be engaged in a duel, either as principal or accessory before the fact, shall be disqualified from holding any office under the constitution and laws of this State, and shall not be permitted to vote at any election.

#### ARTICLE VIII.—*State Officers.*

SEC. 1. There shall be elected at each general biennial election a secretary of state, a superintendent of public instruction, a state treasurer, a commissioner of the land office, an auditor-general, and an attorney-general, for the term of two years. They shall keep their offices at the seat of government, and shall perform such duties as may be prescribed by law.

2. Their term of office shall commence on the first day of January, one thousand eight hundred and fifty-three, and of every second year thereafter.

3. Whenever a vacancy shall occur in any of the State offices, the governor shall fill the same by appointment, by and with the advice and consent of the Senate, if in session.

4. The secretary of state, state treasurer, and commissioner of the state land office shall constitute a board of state auditors to examine and adjust all claims against the State, not otherwise provided for by general law. They shall constitute a board of state canvassers to determine the result of all elections for governor, lieutenant governor, and state officers, and of such other officers as shall by law be referred to them.

5. In case two or more persons have an equal and the highest number of votes for any office, as canvassed by the board of state canvassers, the Legislature, in joint convention, shall choose one of said persons to fill such office. When the determination of the board of state canvassers is contested, the Legislature, in joint convention, shall decide which person is elected.

#### ARTICLE IX.—*Salaries.*

SEC. 1. The governor shall receive an annual salary of one thousand dollars; the judges of the circuit court shall each receive an annual salary of one thousand five hundred dollars; the state treasurer shall receive an annual salary of one thousand dollars; the auditor-general shall receive an annual salary of one thousand dollars; the superintendent of public instruction shall receive an annual salary of one thousand dollars; the secretary of state shall receive an annual salary of eight hundred dollars; the commissioner of the land office shall receive an annual salary of eight hundred dollars; the attorney-general shall receive an annual salary of eight hundred dollars. They shall receive no fees or perquisites whatever, for the performance of any duties connected with their offices. It shall

not be competent for the Legislature to increase the salaries herein provided.

#### ARTICLE X.—*Counties.*

SEC. 1. Each organized county shall be a body corporate, with such powers and immunities as shall be established by law. All suits and proceedings, by or against a county, shall be in the name thereof.

2. No organized county shall ever be reduced by the organization of new counties to less than sixteen townships, as surveyed by the United States, unless in pursuance of law, a majority of electors residing in each county to be effected thereby shall so decide. The Legislature may organize any city into a separate county, when it has attained a population of twenty thousand inhabitants, without reference to geographical extent, when a majority of the electors of a county in which such city may be situated, voting thereon, shall be in favor of a separate organization.

3. In each organized county there shall be a sheriff, a county clerk, a county treasurer, a register of deeds, and a prosecuting attorney, chosen by the electors thereof, once in two years, and as often as vacancies shall happen, whose duties and powers shall be prescribed by law. The board of supervisors in any county may unite the offices of county clerk and register of deeds in one office, or disconnect the same.

4. The sheriff, county clerk, county treasurer, judge of probate, and register of deeds, shall hold their offices at the county seat.

5. The sheriff shall hold no other office, and shall be incapable of holding the office of sheriff longer than four in any period of six years. He may be required by law to renew his security from time to time, and in default of giving such security, his office shall be deemed vacant. The county shall never be responsible for his acts.

6. A board of supervisors, consisting of one from each organized township, shall be established in each county, with such powers as shall be prescribed by law.

7. Cities shall have such representation in the board of supervisors of the counties in which they are situated, as the Legislature may direct.

8. No county seat, once established, shall be removed, until the place to which it is proposed to be removed shall be designated by two-thirds of the board of supervisors of the county, and a majority of the electors voting thereon shall have voted in favor of the proposed location, in such manner as shall be prescribed by law.

9. The board of supervisors of any county may borrow or raise by tax one thousand dollars, for constructing or repairing public buildings, highways or bridges; but no greater sum shall be borrowed or raised by tax for such purpose in any one year, unless authorized by a majority of the electors of such county voting thereon.

10. The board of supervisors, or in the county of Wayne, the



board of county auditors, shall have the exclusive power to prescribe and fix the compensation for all services rendered for, and to adjust all claims against their respective counties, and the sum so fixed or defined shall be subject to no appeal.

11. The board of supervisors of each organized county may provide for laying out highways, constructing bridges, and organizing townships, under such restrictions and limitations as shall be prescribed by law.

#### ARTICLE XI.—*Townships.*

SEC. 1. There shall be elected annually, on the first Monday of April, in each organized township, one supervisor, one township clerk, who shall be ex-officio school inspector, one commissioner of highways, one township treasurer, one school inspector, not exceeding four constables, and one overseer of highways for each highway district, whose powers and duties shall be prescribed by law.

2. Each organized township shall be a body corporate, with such powers and immunities as shall be prescribed by law. All suits and proceedings by or against a township, shall be in the name thereof.

#### ARTICLE XII.—*Impeachments and Removals from Office.*

SEC. 1. The House of Representatives shall have the sole power of impeaching civil officers for corrupt conduct in office, or for crimes or misdemeanors; but a majority of the members elected shall be necessary to direct an impeachment.

2. Every impeachment shall be tried by the Senate. When the governor or lieutenant governor is tried, the chief justice of the supreme court shall preside. When an impeachment is directed, the Senate shall take an oath or affirmation truly and impartially to try and determine the same according to the evidence. No person shall be convicted without the concurrence of two-thirds of the members elected. Judgment, in case of impeachment, shall not extend further than removal from office; but the party convicted shall be liable to punishment according to law.

3. When an impeachment is directed, the House of Representatives shall elect from their own body three members, whose duty it shall be to prosecute such impeachment. No impeachment shall be tried until the final adjournment of the Legislature, when the Senate shall proceed to try the same.

4. No judicial officer shall exercise his office after an impeachment is directed, until he is acquitted.

5. The governor may make a provisional appointment to fill a vacancy occasioned by the suspension of an officer until he shall be acquitted, or until after the election and qualification of a successor.

6. For reasonable cause, which shall not be sufficient ground for the impeachment of a judge, the governor shall remove him on a concurrent resolution of two-thirds of the members elected to each

house of the Legislature; but the cause for which such removal is required shall be stated at length in such resolution.

7. The Legislature shall provide by law for the removal of any officer elected by a county, township or school district, in such manner and for such cause as to them shall seem just and proper.

### ARTICLE XIII.—*Education.*

SEC. 1. The superintendent of public instruction shall have the general supervision of public instruction, and his duties shall be prescribed by law.

2. The proceeds from the sales of all lands that have been or hereafter may be granted by the United States to the State for educational purposes, and the proceeds of all lands or other property given by individuals or appropriated by the State for like purposes, shall be and remain a perpetual fund, the interest and income of which, together with the rents of all such lands as may remain unsold, shall be inviolably appropriated and annually applied to the specific objects of the original gift, grant or appropriation.

3. All lands, the titles to which shall fail from a defect of heirs, shall escheat to the State; and the interest on the clear proceeds from the sales thereof, shall be appropriated exclusively to the support of primary schools.

4. The Legislature shall, within five years from the adoption of this constitution, provide for and establish a system of primary schools, whereby a school shall be kept, without charge for tuition, at least three months in each year, in every school district in the State, and all instruction in said schools shall be conducted in the English language.

5. A school shall be maintained in each school district at least three months in each year. Any school district neglecting to maintain such school, shall be deprived for the ensuing year of its proportion of the income of the primary school fund, and of all funds arising from taxes for the support of schools.

6. There shall be elected in each judicial circuit, at the time of the election of the judge of such circuit, a regent of the university, whose term of office shall be the same as that of such judge. The regents thus elected shall constitute the board of regents of the University of Michigan.

7. The regents of the university, and their successors in office, shall continue to constitute the body corporate, known by the name and title of "the Regents of the University of Michigan."

8. The regents of the university shall, at their first annual meeting, or as soon thereafter as may be, elect a president of the university, who shall be ex-officio a member of their board, with the privilege of speaking, but not of voting. He shall preside at the meetings of the regents, and be the principal executive officer of the university. The board of regents shall have the general supervision of the uni-



versity, and the direction and control of all expenditures from the university interest fund.

9. There shall be elected at the general election in the year one thousand eight hundred and fifty-two, three members of a state board of education, one for two years, one for four years, and one for six years; and at each succeeding biennial election there shall be elected one member of such board, who shall hold his office for six years. The superintendent of public instruction shall be ex-officio a member and secretary of such board. The board shall have the general supervision of the State Normal School, and their duties shall be prescribed by law.

10. Institutions for the benefit of those inhabitants who are deaf, dumb, blind or insane, shall always be fostered and supported.

11. The Legislature shall encourage the promotion of intellectual, scientific and agricultural improvement; and shall, as soon as practicable, provide for the establishment of an agricultural school. The Legislature may appropriate the twenty-two sections of salt spring lands now unappropriated, or the money arising from the sale of the same, where such lands have been already sold, and any land which may hereafter be granted or appropriated for such purpose, for the support and maintenance of such school, and may make the same a branch of the university for instruction in agriculture and the natural sciences connected therewith, and place the same under the supervision of the regents of the university.

12. The Legislature shall also provide for the establishment of at least one librarian in each township; and all fines assessed and collected in the several counties and townships for any breach of the penal laws, shall be exclusively applied to the support of such libraries.

#### ARTICLE XIV.—*Finance and Taxation.*

SEC. 1. All specific State taxes, except those received from the mining companies of the Upper Peninsula, shall be applied in paying the interest upon the primary school, university, and other educational funds, and the interest and principal of the State debt, in the order herein recited, until the extinguishment of the State debt, other than the amounts due to educational funds, when such specific taxes shall be added to, and constitute a part of the primary school interest fund. The Legislature shall provide for an annual tax, sufficient, with other resources, to pay the estimated expenses of the State government, the interest of the State debt, and such deficiency as may occur in the resources.

2. The Legislature shall provide by law a sinking fund of at least twenty thousand dollars a year, to commence in eighteen hundred and fifty-two, with compound interest at the rate of six per cent. per annum, and an annual increase of at least five per cent., to be applied solely to the payment and extinguishment of the principal of the State debt, other than the amounts due to educational funds, and shall be

continued until the extinguishment thereof. The unfunded debt shall not be funded or redeemed at a value exceeding that established by law in one thousand eight hundred and forty-eight.

3. The State may contract debts to meet deficits in revenue. Such debts shall not in the aggregate at any one time exceed fifty thousand dollars. The moneys so raised shall be applied to the purposes for which they were obtained, or to the payment of the debts so contracted.

4. The State may contract debts to repel invasion, suppress insurrection, or defend the State in time of war. The money arising from the contracting of such debts shall be applied to the purposes for which it was raised, or to repay such debts.

5. No money shall be paid out of the treasury except in pursuance of appropriations made by law.

6. The credit of the State shall not be granted to, or in aid of any person, association or corporation.

7. No scrip, certificate or other evidence of State indebtedness shall be issued, except for the redemption of stock previously issued, or for such debts as are expressly authorized in this constitution.

8. The State shall not subscribe to, or be interested in, the stock of any company, association or corporation.

9. The State shall not be a party to, or interested in, any work of internal improvement, nor engaged in carrying on any such work, except in the expenditure of grants to the State of land or other property.

10. The State may continue to collect all specific taxes accruing to the treasury under existing laws. The Legislature may provide for the collection of specific taxes, from banking, railroad, plank road, and other corporations hereafter created.

11. The Legislature shall provide an uniform rule of taxation, except on property paying specific taxes, and taxes shall be levied on such property as shall be prescribed by law.

12. All assessments hereafter authorized shall be on property at its cash value.

13. The Legislature shall provide for an equalization by a State board, in the year one thousand eight hundred and fifty-one, and every fifth year thereafter, of assessments on all taxable property, except that paying specific taxes.

14. Every law which imposes, continues or revives a tax, shall distinctly state the tax, and the object to which it is to be applied; and it shall not be sufficient to refer to any other law to fix such tax or object.

#### ARTICLE XV.—*Corporations.*

SEC. 1. Corporations may be formed under general laws, but shall not be created by special act, except for municipal purposes. All laws passed pursuant to this section may be altered, amended, or repealed.



2. No banking law, or law for banking purposes, or amendments thereof, shall have effect until the same shall, after its passage, be submitted to a vote of the electors of the State, at a general election, and be approved by a majority of the votes cast thereon at such election.

3. The officers and stockholders of every corporation or association for banking purposes, issuing bank notes or paper credits to circulate as money, shall be individually liable for all debts contracted during the time of their being officers or stockholders of such corporation or association.

4. The Legislature shall provide by law for the registry of all bills or notes issued or put in circulation as money, and shall require security to the full amount of notes and bills so registered in State or United States stocks, bearing interest, which shall be deposited with the state treasurer, for the redemption of such bills or notes in specie.

5. In case of the insolvency of any bank or banking association, the billholders thereof shall be entitled to preference in payment over all other creditors of such bank or association.

6. The Legislature shall pass no law authorizing or sanctioning the suspension of specie payments by any person, association or corporation.

7. The stockholders of all corporations and joint stock associations shall be individually liable for all labor performed for such corporation or association.

8. The Legislature shall pass no law altering or amending any act of incorporation heretofore granted, without the assent of two-thirds of the members elected to each house; nor shall any such act be renewed or extended. This restriction shall not apply to municipal corporations.

9. The property of no person shall be taken by any corporation for public use without compensation being first made or secured, in such manner as may be prescribed by law.

10. No corporation, except for municipal purposes, or for the construction of railroads, plank roads and canals, shall be created for a longer time than thirty years.

11. The term "corporations," as used in the preceding sections of this article, shall be construed to include all associations and joint stock companies having any of the powers or privileges of corporations not possessed by individuals or partnerships. All corporations shall have the right to sue, and be subject to be sued, in all courts, in like cases as natural persons.

12. No corporation shall hold any real estate hereafter acquired for a longer period than ten years, except such real estate as shall be actually occupied by such corporation in the exercise of its franchises.

13. The Legislature shall provide for the incorporation and organ-

ization of cities and villages, and shall restrict their powers of taxation, borrowing money, contracting debts, and loaning their credit.

14. Judicial officers of cities and villages shall be elected, and all other officers shall be elected or appointed at such time and in such manner as the Legislature may direct.

15. Private property shall not be taken for public improvements in cities and villages without the consent of the owner, unless the compensation therefor shall first be determined by a jury of freeholders, and actually paid or secured in the manner provided by law.

16. Previous notice of any application for an alteration of the charter of any corporation shall be given in such manner as may be prescribed by law.

#### ARTICLE XVI.—*Exemptions.*

SEC. 1. The personal property of every resident of this State, to consist of such property only as shall be designated by law, shall be exempted to the amount of not less than five hundred dollars from sale on execution, or other final process of any court, issued for the collection of any debt contracted after the adoption of this constitution.

2. Every homestead of not exceeding forty acres of land, and the dwelling-house thereon, and the appurtenances to be selected by the owner thereof, and not included in any town plat, city or village; or instead thereof, at the option of the owner, any lot in any city, village, or recorded town plat, or such parts of lots as shall be equal thereto, and the dwelling-house thereon and its appurtenances, owned and occupied by any resident of the State, not exceeding in value fifteen hundred dollars, shall be exempt from forced sale on execution, or any other final process from a court, for any debt contracted after the adoption of this constitution. Such exemption shall not extend to any mortgage thereon lawfully obtained; but such mortgage, or other alienation of such land, by the owner thereof, if a married man, shall not be valid without the signature of the wife to the same.

3. The homestead of a family, after the death of the owner thereof, shall be exempt from the payment of his debts, contracted after the adoption of this constitution, in all cases, during the minority of his children.

4. If the owner of a homestead die, leaving a widow, but no children, the same shall be exempt, and the rents and profits thereof shall accrue to her benefit during the time of her widowhood, unless she be the owner of a homestead in her own right.

5. The real and personal estate of every female, acquired before marriage, and all property to which she may afterwards become entitled, by gift, grant, inheritance or devise, shall be and remain the estate and property of such female, and shall not be liable for the



debts, obligations or engagements of her husband; and may be devised or bequeathed by her as if she were unmarried.

#### ARTICLE XVII.—*Militia.*

SEC. 1. The militia shall be composed of all able bodied white male citizens between the ages of eighteen and forty-five years, except such as are exempted by the laws of the United States or of this State: but all such citizens of any religious denomination whatever, who, from scruples of conscience, may be averse to bearing arms, shall be excused therefrom, upon such conditions as shall be prescribed by law.

2. The Legislature shall provide by law for organizing, equipping and disciplining the militia, in such manner as they shall deem expedient, not incompatible with the laws of the United States.

3. Officers of the militia shall be elected or appointed, and be commissioned in such manner as may be provided by law.

#### ARTICLE XVIII.—*Miscellaneous Provisions.*

SEC. 1. Members of the Legislature, and all officers, executive and judicial, except such officers as may by law be exempted, shall, before they enter on the duties of their respective offices, take and subscribe the following oath or affirmation: "I do solemnly swear (or affirm) that I will support the constitution of the United States and the constitution of this State, and that I will faithfully discharge the duties of the office of ——— according to the best of my ability." And no other oath, declaration or test shall be required as a qualification for any office or public trust.

2. When private property is taken for the use or benefit of the public, the necessity for using such property, and the just compensation to be made therefor, except when to be made by the State, shall be ascertained by a jury of twelve freeholders, residing in the vicinity of such property, or by not less than three commissioners, appointed by a court of record, as shall be prescribed by law.

3. No mechanical trade shall hereafter be taught to convicts in the state prison of this State, except the manufacture of those articles, of which the chief supply for home consumption is imported from other states or countries.

4. No navigable stream in this State shall be either bridged or dammed without authority from the board of supervisors of the proper county, under the provisions of law. No such law shall prejudice the right of individuals to the free navigation of such streams, or preclude the State from the further improvement of the navigation of such stream.

5. An accurate statement of the receipts and expenditures of the public moneys shall be attached to, and published with the laws, at every regular session of the Legislature.

6. The laws, public records, and the written judicial and legisla-

tive proceedings of the State, shall be conducted, promulgated and preserved in the English language.

7. Every person has a right to bear arms for the defence of himself and the State.

8. The military shall, in all cases and at all times, be in strict subordination to the civil power.

9. No soldier shall, in time of peace, be quartered in any house without the consent of the owner or occupant, nor in time of war, except in a manner prescribed by law.

10. The people have the right peaceably to assemble together, to consult for the common good, to instruct their representatives, and to petition the Legislature for redress of grievances.

11. Neither slavery nor involuntary servitude, unless for the punishment of crime, shall ever be tolerated in this State.

12. No lease or grant hereafter of agricultural land for a longer period than twelve years, reserving any rent or service of any kind, shall be valid.

13. Aliens who are, or who may hereafter become, *bona fide* residents of this State, shall enjoy the same rights in respect to the possession, enjoyment and inheritance of property, as native born citizens.

14. The property of no person shall be taken for public use without just compensation therefor. Private roads may be opened in the manner to be prescribed by law; but in every case the necessity of the road and the amount of all damages to be sustained by the opening thereof, shall be first determined by a jury of freeholders; and such amount, together with the expenses of proceedings, shall be paid by the person or persons to be benefited.

15. No general revision of the laws shall hereafter be made. When a reprint thereof becomes necessary, the Legislature, in joint convention, shall appoint a suitable person to collect together such acts and parts of acts as are in force, and, without alteration, arrange them under appropriate heads and titles. The laws so arranged shall be submitted to two commissioners appointed by the governor for examination, and if certified by them to be a correct compilation of all general laws in force, shall be printed in such manner as shall be prescribed by law.

## ARTICLE XIX.—*Upper Peninsula.*

SEC. 1. The counties of Mackinac, Chippewa, Delta, Marquette, Schoolcraft, Houghton and Ontonagon, and the islands and territory thereunto attached, the islands of Lake Superior, Huron and Michigan, and in Green Bay, and the Straits of Mackinac and the River Ste Marie, shall constitute a separate judicial district, and be entitled to a district judge and district attorney.

2. The district judge shall be elected by the electors of such district, and shall perform the same duties and possess the same powers



as a circuit judge in his circuit, and shall hold his office for the same period.

3. The district attorney shall be elected every two years by the electors of the district, shall perform the duties of prosecuting attorney throughout the entire district, and may issue warrants for the arrest of offenders in cases of felony, to be proceeded with as shall be prescribed by law.

4. Such judicial district shall be entitled at all times to at least one senator, and until entitled to more by its population, it shall have three members of the House of Representatives, to be apportioned among the several counties by the Legislature.

5. The Legislature may provide for the payment of the district judge a salary not exceeding one thousand dollars a year, and of the district attorney not exceeding seven hundred dollars a year, and may allow extra compensation to the members of the Legislature from such territory, not exceeding two dollars a day during any session.

6. The elections for all district or county officers, State senator or representatives, within the boundaries defined in this article, shall take place on the last Tuesday of September in the respective years in which they may be required. The county canvass shall be held on the first Tuesday in October thereafter, and the district canvass on the last Tuesday of said October.

7. One-half of the taxes received into the treasury from mining corporations in the Upper Peninsula paying an annual State tax of one per cent., shall be paid to the treasurers of the counties from which it is received, to be applied for township and county purposes, as provided by law. The Legislature shall have power, after the year one thousand eight hundred and fifty-five, to reduce the amount to be refunded.

8. The Legislature may change the location of the state prison from Jackson to the Upper Peninsula.

9. The charters of the several mining corporations may be modified by the Legislature, in regard to the term limited for subscribing to stock, and in relation to the quantity of land which a corporation shall hold; but the capital shall not be increased, nor the time for the existence of charters extended. No such corporation shall be permitted to purchase or hold any real estate, except such as shall be necessary for the exercise of its corporate franchises.

#### ARTICLE XX.—*Amendment and Revision of the Constitution.*

SEC. 1. Any amendment or amendments to this constitution may be proposed in the Senate or House of Representatives. If the same shall be agreed to by two-thirds of the members elected to each house, such amendment or amendments shall be entered on their journals respectively, with the yeas and nays taken thereon; and the same shall be submitted to the electors at the next general election thereafter, and if a majority of the electors qualified to vote for

members of the Legislature voting thereon shall ratify and approve such amendment or amendments, the same shall become part of the constitution.

2. At the general election to be held in the year one thousand eight hundred and sixty-six, and in each sixteenth year thereafter, and also at such other times as the Legislature may by law provide, the question of a general revision of the constitution shall be submitted to the electors qualified to vote for members of the Legislature; and in case a majority of the electors so qualified, voting at such election, shall decide in favor of a convention for such purpose, the Legislature, at the next session, shall provide by law for the election of delegates to such convention. All the amendments shall take effect at the commencement of the political year after their adoption.

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## SCHEDULE.

THAT no inconvenience may arise from the changes in the constitution of this State, and in order to carry the same into complete operation, it is hereby declared, that

SEC. 1. The common law and the statute laws now in force, not repugnant to this constitution, shall remain in force until they expire by their own limitations, or are altered or repealed by the Legislature.

2. All writs, actions, causes of action, prosecutions, and rights of individuals and of bodies corporate, and of the State, and all charters of incorporation, shall continue; and all indictments which shall have been found, or which may hereafter be found, for any crime or offence committed before the adoption of this constitution, may be proceeded upon as if no change had taken place. The several courts, except as herein otherwise provided, shall continue with the like powers and jurisdiction, both at law and in equity, as if this constitution had not been adopted, and until the organization of the judicial department under this constitution.

3. That all fines, penalties, forfeitures and escheats accruing to the State of Michigan under the present constitution and laws, shall accrue to the use of the State under this constitution.

4. That all recognizances, bonds, obligations, and all other instruments entered into or executed before the adoption of this constitution, to the people of the State of Michigan, to any state, county or township, or any public officer or public body, or which may be entered into or executed, under existing laws, "to the people of the State of Michigan," to any such officer or public body, before the complete organization of the departments of government under this constitution, shall remain binding and valid; and rights and liabilities upon the same shall continue, and may be prosecuted as provided by law. And all crimes and misdemeanors, and penal actions, shall be tried, punished and prosecuted, as though no change had taken place, until otherwise provided by law.

5. A governor and lieutenant governor shall be chosen under the existing constitution and laws, to serve after the expiration of the term of the present incumbent.

6. All officers, civil and military, now holding any office or appointment, shall continue to hold their respective offices, unless removed by competent authority, until superseded under the laws now in force, or under this constitution.

7 The members of the Senate and House of Representatives of the Legisla-



ture of one thousand eight hundred and fifty-one, shall continue in office under the provisions of law until superseded by their successors elected and qualified under this constitution.

8. All county officers, unless removed by competent authority, shall continue to hold their respective offices until the first day of January, in the year one thousand eight hundred and fifty-three. The laws now in force as to the election, qualification, and duties of township officers, shall continue in force until the Legislature shall, in conformity to the provisions of this constitution, provide for the holding of elections to fill such offices, and prescribe the duties of such officers respectively.

9. On the first day of January, in the year one thousand eight hundred and fifty-two, the terms of office of the judges of the supreme court, under existing laws, and of the judges of the county courts, and of the clerks of the supreme court, shall expire on the said day.

10. On the first day of January, in the year one thousand eight hundred and fifty-two, the jurisdiction of all suits and proceedings then pending in the present supreme courts, shall become vested in the supreme court established by this constitution, and shall be finally adjudicated by the court where the same may be pending. The jurisdiction of all suits and proceedings at law and equity, then pending in the circuit courts and county courts for the several counties, shall become vested in the circuit courts of the said counties, and district court for the Upper Peninsula.

11. The probate courts, the courts of justices of the peace, and the police court authorized by an act entitled "An act to establish a police court in the city of Detroit," approved April second, one thousand eight hundred and fifty, shall continue to exercise the jurisdiction and powers now conferred upon them respectively, until otherwise provided by law.

12. The office of State printer shall be vested in the present incumbent until the expiration of the term for which he was elected under the law then in force; and all the provisions of the said law relating to his duties, rights, privileges and compensation, shall remain unimpaired and inviolate until the expiration of his said term of office.

13. It shall be the duty of the Legislature, at their first session, to adapt the present laws to the provisions of this constitution, as far as may be.

14. The attorney-general of the State is required to prepare and report to the Legislature, at the commencement of the next session, such changes and modifications in existing laws as may be deemed necessary to adapt the same to this constitution, and as may be best calculated to carry into effect its provisions; and he shall receive no additional compensation therefor.

15. Any territory attached to any county for judicial purposes, if not otherwise represented, shall be considered as forming part of such county, so far as regards elections for the purpose of representation.

16. This constitution shall be submitted to the people for their adoption or rejection, at the general election to be held on the first Tuesday of November, one thousand eight hundred and fifty; and there shall also be submitted for adoption or rejection, at the same time, the separate resolution in relation to the elective franchise; and it shall be the duty of the secretary of state, and all other officers required to give or publish any notice in regard to the said general election, to give notice, as provided by law in case of an election of governor, that this constitution has been duly submitted to the electors at said election. Every newspaper within this State publishing, in the month of September next, this constitution as submitted, shall receive, as compensation therefor, the sum of twenty-five dollars, to be paid as the Legislature shall direct.

17. Any person entitled to vote for members of the Legislature, by the constitution and laws now in force, shall, at the said election, be entitled to vote for the adoption or rejection of this constitution, and for or against the resolution separately submitted, at the places and in the manner provided by law for the election of members of the Legislature.

18. At the said general election, a ballot box shall be kept by the several boards of inspectors thereof, for receiving the votes cast for or against the adoption of this constitution; and on the ballots shall be written or printed, or partly written and partly printed, the words "Adoption of the constitution—yes," or "Adoption of the constitution—no."

19. The canvass of the votes cast for the adoption or rejection of this constitution, and the provision in relation to the elective franchise separately submitted, and the returns thereof shall be made by the proper canvassing officers, in the same manner as now provided by law for the canvass and return of the votes cast at an election for governor, as near as may be, and the return thereof shall be directed to the secretary of state. On the sixteenth day of December next, or within five days thereafter, the auditor general, state treasurer, and secretary of state, shall meet at the capitol, and proceed, in presence of the governor, to examine and canvass the returns of the said votes, and proclamation shall forthwith be made by the governor of the result thereof. If it shall appear that a majority of the votes cast upon the question have thereon "Adoption of the constitution—yes," this constitution shall be the supreme law of the State from and after the first day of January, one thousand eight hundred and fifty-one, except as is herein otherwise provided; but if a majority of the votes cast upon the question have thereon "Adoption of the constitution—no," the same shall be null and void. And in case of the adoption of this constitution, said officers shall immediately, or as soon thereafter as practicable, proceed to open the statements of votes returned from the several counties for judges of the supreme court and State officers under the act entitled "An act to amend the revised statutes and to provide for the election of certain officers by the people in pursuance to an amendment to the constitution, approved February sixteenth, one thousand eight hundred and fifty," and shall ascertain, determine and certify the results of the election for said officers under said acts, in the same manner, as near as may be, as is now provided by law in regard to the election of representatives in Congress. And the several judges and officers so ascertained to have been elected may be qualified and enter upon the duties of their respective offices, on the first Monday of January next, or as soon thereafter as practicable.

20. The salaries or compensation of all persons holding office under the present constitution, shall continue to be the same as now provided by law, until superseded by their successors elected or appointed under this constitution; and it shall not be lawful hereafter for the Legislature to increase or diminish the compensation of any officer during the term for which he is elected or appointed.

21. The Legislature, at their first session, shall provide for the payment of all expenditures of the convention to revise the constitution, and of the publication of the same as is provided in this article.

22. Every county, except Mackinaw and Chippewa, entitled to a representative in the Legislature, at the time of the adoption of this constitution, shall continue to be so entitled under this constitution; and the county of Saginaw, with the territory that may be attached, shall be entitled to one representative; the county of Tuscola, and the territory that may be attached, one representative; the county of Sanilac, and the territory that may be attached, one representative; the counties of Midland and Aronac, with the territory that may be attached, one representative; the county of Montcalm, with the territory that may be attached thereto, one representative; and the counties of Newaygo and Oceana, with the territory that may be attached thereto, one representative. Each county having a ratio of representation and a fraction over, equal to a moiety of said ratio, shall be entitled to two representatives, and so on above that number, giving one additional member for each additional ratio.

23. The cases pending and undisposed of in the late court of chancery at the time of the adoption of this constitution, shall continue to be heard and determined by the judges of the supreme court. But the Legislature shall, at its session in one thousand eight hundred and fifty-one, provide by law for the transfer of said causes that may remain undisposed of on the first day of January, one



thousand eight hundred and fifty-two, to the supreme or circuit court established by this constitution, or require that the same may be heard and determined by the circuit judges.

24. The term of office of governor and lieutenant governor shall commence on the first day of January next after their election.

25. The territory described in the article entitled "Upper Peninsula," shall be attached to and constitute a part of the third circuit for the election of a Regent of the University.

26. The Legislature shall have authority, after the expiration of the term of office of the district judge first elected for the "Upper Peninsula," to abolish said office of district judge and district attorney, or either of them.

27. The Legislature shall, at its session of one thousand eight hundred and fifty-one, apportion the representatives among the several counties and districts, and divide the State into Senate districts, pursuant to the provisions of this constitution.

28. The terms of office of all State and county officers, of the circuit judges, members of the board of education, and members of the Legislature, shall begin on the first day of January next succeeding their election.

29. The State, exclusive of the Upper Peninsula, shall be divided into eight judicial circuits, and the counties of Monroe, Lenawee and Hillsdale shall constitute the first circuit; the counties of Branch, St. Joseph, Cass and Berrien shall constitute the second circuit; the county of Wayne shall constitute the third circuit; the counties of Washtenaw, Jackson and Ingham shall constitute the fourth circuit; the counties of Calhoun, Kalamazoo, Allegan, Eaton and Van Buren shall constitute the fifth circuit; [the] counties of St. Clair, Macomb, Oakland and Sanilac shall constitute the sixth circuit; the counties of Lapeer, Genesee, Saginaw, Shiawassee, Livingston, Tuscola and Midland shall constitute the seventh circuit; and the counties of Barry, Kent, Ottawa, Ionia, Clinton and Montcalm shall constitute the eighth circuit.

#### RESOLUTION.

30. At the next general election, and at the same time when the votes of the electors shall be taken for the adoption or rejection of this constitution, an additional amendment to section one of article seven, in the words following:

"Every colored male inhabitant possessing the qualifications required by the first section of the second article of the constitution, shall have the rights and privileges of an elector,"

Shall be separately submitted to the electors of this State for their adoption or rejection, in form following, to wit: A separate ballot may be given by every person having the right to vote for the revised constitution, to be deposited in a separate box. Upon the ballots given for the adoption of the said separate amendment shall be written or printed, or partly written and partly printed, the words "Equal suffrage to colored persons? Yes;" and upon all ballots given against the adoption of the said separate amendment, in like manner, the words "Equal suffrage to colored persons? No." And on such ballots shall be written or printed, or partly written and partly printed, the words "Constitution: Suffrage," in such manner that such words shall appear on the outer side of such ballot when folded. If, at said election, a majority of all the votes given for and against the said separate amendment shall contain the words, "Equal suffrage to colored persons? Yes," then there shall be inserted in the first section of the article, between the words "tribe and shall," these words, "and every colored male inhabitant," anything in the constitution to the contrary notwithstanding.\*

Done in Convention, at the Capitol of the State, this fifteenth day of August, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and fifty, and of the Independence of the United States the seventy-fifth.

\* At the adoption of this Constitution, equal suffrage was refused to colored persons.

## MISSOURI.



MISSOURI was originally included in the territory of Louisiana. It was purchased of the French in 1803, by the United States. In 1804 it was constituted the territory of Louisiana, and in 1812 its name was changed to Missouri. In 1821 it became a State, and was admitted into the union. St. Louis was settled by the French in 1764, and is one of the most flourishing cities in the West.

Area, 64,000 sq. m. Pop. in 1850, 682,043, of whom 87,422 were slaves, and 2544 free colored.

## CONSTITUTION.

WE, the People of Missouri, inhabiting the limits hereinafter designated, by our Representatives in Convention assembled, at St. Louis, on Monday, the twelfth day of June, one thousand eight hundred and twenty, do mutually agree to form and establish a free and independent Republic, by the name of "The State of Missouri;" and for the government thereof, do ordain and establish this Constitution.

### ARTICLE I.—*Of Boundaries.*

We do declare, establish, ratify and confirm the following as the permanent boundaries of said State, that is to say: "Beginning in the middle of the Mississippi river, on the parallel of thirty-six degrees of north latitude, thence west along the said parallel of latitude to the St. François river; thence up and



following the course of that river, in the middle of the main channel thereof, to the parallel of latitude of thirty-six degrees and thirty minutes; thence west, along the same, to a point where the said parallel is intersected by a meridian line passing through the middle of the mouth of the Kansas river, where the same empties into the Missouri river; thence, from the point aforesaid, north, along the said meridian line, to the intersection of the parallel of latitude which passes through the rapids of the river Des Moines, making the said line correspond with the Indian boundary line; thence east, from the point of intersection last aforesaid, along the said parallel of latitude, to the middle of the channel of the main fork of the said river Des Moines; thence, down, along the middle of the main channel of the said river Des Moines, to the mouth of the same, where it empties into the Mississippi river; thence, due east to the middle of the main channel of the Mississippi river; thence, down, and following the course of the Mississippi river, in the middle of the main channel thereof, to the place of beginning.\*.

#### ARTICLE II.—*Of the Distribution of Powers.*

The powers of government shall be divided into three distinct departments, each of which shall be confided to a separate magistracy; and no person charged with the exercise of powers properly belonging to one of these departments, shall exercise any power properly belonging to either of the others, except in the instances hereinafter expressly directed or permitted.

#### ARTICLE III.—*Of the Legislative Power.*

SEC. 1. The legislative power shall be vested in a General Assembly, which shall consist of a Senate and of a House of Representatives.†

2. [This section has been abolished by the adoption of section 1 of article 3 of the Amendments.]

3. No person shall be a member of the House of Representatives, who shall not have attained to the age of twenty-four years; who shall not be a free white male citizen of the United States; who shall not have been an inhabitant of this State two years, and of the county which he represents one year next before his election, if such county shall have been so long established; but if not, then of the county or counties from which the same shall have been taken; and who shall not, moreover, have paid a State or county tax.

\* By an act of Congress, of June 7, 1836, the western boundary of the State of Missouri was extended west to the Missouri river, to take effect when the Indian title should be extinguished, and when Missouri should assent to the provisions of the act. The State of Missouri, by an act of the General Assembly, approved December 16, 1836, declared her assent to the several provisions of the said act of Congress. The Indian title was extinguished by a treaty with the Ioways, Sacs and Foxes, concluded at Fort Leavenworth, September 17, 1836, and ratified February 15, 1837. By this treaty, that beautiful and fertile portion of the State called the "Platte purchase," was acquired. This acquisition has greatly enlarged the limits of the State. According to the calculation of Mr. Edward Huttawa, Missouri at present contains a superficial area of 72,207.63 square miles.

Boundary of the State enlarged and extended by section 4, article 2, of Amendments. See, *Missouri v. Iowa*, 7 Howard R., 660, and *S. C.*, 10 Howard R., 1.

† *State v. Simonds*, 3 Mo. Rep., 292.

4. [This section was abolished by article 3 of Amendments.]

5. The Senators shall be chosen by the qualified electors, for the term of four years. No person shall be a Senator who shall not have attained to the age of thirty years; who shall not be a free white male citizen of the United States; who shall not have been an inhabitant of this State four years, and of the district which he may be chosen to represent, one year next before his election, if such district shall have been so long established; but if not, then of the district or districts from which the same shall have been taken; and who shall not, moreover, have paid a State or county tax.

6. The Senate shall consist of not less than fourteen, nor more than thirty-three members; for the election of whom, the State shall be divided into convenient districts, which may be altered from time to time, and new districts established, as public convenience may require; and the Senators shall be apportioned among the several districts, according to the number of free white male inhabitants in each: *Provided*, That when a senatorial district shall be composed of two or more counties, the counties of which such district consists shall not be entirely separated by any county belonging to another district, and no county shall be divided in forming a district.

7. At the first session of the General Assembly, the Senators shall be divided by lot, as equally as may be, into two classes. The seats of the first class shall be vacated at the end of the second year, and the seats of the second class at the end of the fourth year; so that one-half of the Senators shall be chosen every second year.

8. After the first day of January, one thousand eight hundred and twenty-two, all general elections shall commence on the first Monday in August, and shall be held biennially; and the electors, in all cases, except of treason, felony, or breach of the peace, shall be privileged from arrest during their continuance at elections, and in going to and returning from the same.

9. The Governor shall issue writs of election, to fill such vacancies as may occur in either house of the General Assembly.

10. Every free white male citizen of the United States, who may have attained to the age of twenty-one years, and who shall have resided in this State one year before an election, the last three months whereof shall have been in the county, or district, in which he offers to vote, shall be deemed a qualified elector of all elective offices: *Provided*, That no soldier, seaman, or mariner, in the regular army or navy of the United States, shall be entitled to vote at any election in this State.

11. No judge of any court of law or equity, Secretary of State, Attorney-General, State Auditor, State or county Treasurer, register or recorder, clerk of any court of record, sheriff, coroner, Member of Congress, nor other person holding any lucrative office under the United States or this State, (militia officers, justices of the peace and



postmasters excepted,) shall be eligible to either house of the General Assembly.\*

12. No person who now is, or who hereafter may be, a collector or holder of public money, nor any assistant or deputy of such collector or holder of public money, shall be eligible to either house of the General Assembly; nor to any office of profit or trust, until he shall have accounted for and paid all sums for which he may be accountable.

13. No person, while he continues to exercise the functions of a bishop, priest, clergyman, or teacher of any religious persuasion, denomination, society, or sect whatsoever, shall be eligible to either house of the General Assembly; nor shall he be appointed to any office of profit within the State, the office of justice of the peace excepted.

14. The General Assembly shall have power to exclude from every office of honor, trust, or profit, within this State, and from the right of suffrage, all persons convicted of bribery, perjury, or other infamous crime.

15. Every person who shall be convicted of having, directly or indirectly, given or offered any bribe to procure his election or appointment, shall be disqualified for any office of honor, trust, or profit, under this State; and any person who shall give or offer any bribe, to procure the election or appointment of any other person, shall, on conviction thereof, be disqualified for an elector, or any office of honor, trust, or profit, under this State, for ten years after such conviction.

16. No Senator or Representative shall, during the term for which he shall have been elected, be appointed to any civil office under this State, which shall have been created, or the emoluments of which shall have been increased, during his continuance in office, except to such offices as shall be filled by elections of the people.

17. Each house shall appoint its own officers, and shall judge of the qualifications, elections and returns of its own members. A majority of each house shall constitute a quorum to do business; but a smaller number may adjourn from day to day, and may compel the attendance of absent members, in such manner, and under such penalties as each house may provide.

18. Each house may determine the rules of its proceedings, punish its members for disorderly behavior, and, with the concurrence of two-thirds of all the members elected, expel a member; but no member shall be expelled a second time for the same cause. They shall each, from time to time, publish a journal of their proceedings, except such parts as may, in their opinion, require secrecy; and the yeas and nays on any question shall be entered on the journal, at the desire of any two members.

19. The doors of each house, and of committees of the whole,

\* *Vide* section 4 of the first article of Amendments.

shall be kept open, except in cases which may require secrecy; and each house may punish, by fine or imprisonment, any person, not a member, who shall be guilty of disrespect to the house, by any disorderly or contemptuous behavior in their presence, during their session: *Provided*, That such fines shall not exceed three hundred dollars, and such imprisonment shall not exceed forty-eight hours, for one offense.

20. Neither house shall, without the consent of the other, adjourn for more than two days at any one time, nor to any other place than to that in which the two houses may be sitting.

21. Bills may originate in either house, and may be altered, amended, or rejected, by the other; and every bill shall be read on three different days in each house, unless two-thirds of the house, where the same is depending, shall dispense with this rule; and every bill having passed both houses, shall be signed by the Speaker of the House of Representatives, and by the President of the Senate.

22. When any officer, civil or military, shall be appointed by the joint or concurrent vote of both houses, or by the separate vote of either house of the General Assembly, the votes shall be publicly given *viva voce*, and entered on the journals. The whole list of members shall be called, and the names of absentees shall be noted, and published with the journal.

23. Senators and Representatives shall, in all cases, except of treason, felony, or breach of the peace, be privileged from arrest, during the session of the General Assembly, and for fifteen days next before the commencement and after the termination of each session; and for any speech or debate in either house, they shall not be questioned in any other place.

24. [This section was abolished by article 3 of the Amendments.]

25. The General Assembly shall direct, by law, in what manner, and in what courts, suits may be brought against the State.

26. The General Assembly shall have no power to pass laws,—

*First*, For the emancipation of slaves, without the consent of their owners, or without paying them, before such emancipation, a full equivalent for such slaves so emancipated; and

*Second*, To prevent *bona fide* emigrants to this State, or actual settlers therein, from bringing from any of the United States, or from any of their Territories, such persons as may there be deemed to be slaves, so long as any persons of the same description are allowed to be held as slaves by the laws of this State.

They shall have power to pass laws,—

*First*, To prohibit the introduction into this State of any slaves who may have committed any high crime in any other State or Territory;

*Second*, To prohibit the introduction of any slave for the purpose of speculation, or as an article of trade or merchandise;

*Third*, To prohibit the introduction of any slave, or the offspring of any slave, who heretofore may have been, or who hereafter may



be, imported from any foreign country into the United States, or any Territory thereof, in contravention of any existing statute of the United States ; and,

*Fourth*, To permit the owners of slaves to emancipate them, saving the rights of creditors, where the person so emancipating will give security that the slave so emancipated shall not become a public charge.

It shall be their duty, as soon as may be, to pass such laws as may be necessary,—

*First*, To prevent free negroes and mulattoes from coming to, and settling, in this State, under any pretext whatsoever ; and,\*

*Second*, To oblige the owners of slaves to treat them with humanity, and to abstain from all injuries to them extending to life or limb.

27. In prosecutions for crimes, slaves shall not be deprived of an impartial trial by jury ; and a slave convicted of a capital offense, shall suffer the same degree of punishment, and no other, that would be inflicted on a free white person for a like offense ; and courts of justice, before whom slaves shall be tried, shall assign them counsel for their defense.

28. Any person who shall maliciously deprive of life, or dismember a slave shall suffer such punishment as would be inflicted for the like offense if it were committed on a free white person.

29. The Governor, Lieutenant-Governor, Secretary of State, Auditor, Treasurer, Attorney-General, and all judges of the courts of law and equity, shall be liable to impeachment for any misdemeanor in office ; but judgment, in such case, shall not extend farther than removal from office and disqualification to hold any office of honor, trust, or profit, under this State.

30. The House of Representatives shall have the sole power of impeachment. All impeachments shall be tried by the Senate ; and, when sitting for that purpose, the Senators shall be on oath or affirmation to do justice according to law and evidence. When the Governor shall be tried, the presiding judge of the Supreme Court shall preside ; and no person shall be convicted without the concurrence of two-thirds of the Senators present.

31. [This section was abolished by the 7th section of the 8th article of Amendments, and the 8th section of the 8th article thereof substituted.]

32. The appointment of all officers, not otherwise directed by this Constitution, shall be made in such manner as may be prescribed by law ; and all officers, both civil and military, under the authority of this State, shall before entering on the duties of their respective offices, take an oath or affirmation to support the Constitution of the United States, and of this State, and to demean themselves faithfully in office.

33. The General Assembly shall meet on the third Monday in

\* Vide, post, Resolution of Congress, and Solemn Public Act of the State of Missouri.

September next; on the first Monday in November, eighteen hundred and twenty-one; on the first Monday in November, eighteen hundred and twenty-two; and, thereafter, the General Assembly shall meet once in every two years; and such meeting shall be on the first Monday in November, unless a different day shall be appointed by law.\*

34. [This section was abolished by the third article of Amendments, and a new provision substituted.]

35. Within five years after the adoption of this Constitution, all the statute laws of a general nature, both civil and criminal, shall be revised, digested, and promulgated, in such manner as the General Assembly shall direct; and a like revision, digest, and promulgation, shall be made at the expiration of every subsequent period of ten years.

36. The style of the laws of this State shall be—“*Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Missouri.*”

#### ARTICLE IV.—*Of the Executive Power.*

SEC. 1.—The supreme executive power shall be vested in a Chief Magistrate, who shall be styled “*The Governor of the State of Missouri.*”

2. The Governor shall be, at least, thirty-five years of age, and a natural-born citizen of the United States, or a citizen at the adoption of the Constitution of the United States, or an inhabitant of that part of Louisiana now included in the State of Missouri, at the time of the cession thereof from France to the United States, and shall have been a resident of the same at least four years next before his election.

3. The Governor shall hold his office for four years, and until a successor be duly appointed and qualified. He shall be elected in the manner following: At the time and place of voting for members of the House of Representatives, the qualified electors shall vote for a Governor; and when two or more persons have an equal number of votes, and a higher number than any other person, the election shall be decided between them by a joint vote of both houses of the General Assembly, at their next session.

4. The Governor shall be ineligible for the next four years after the expiration of his term of service.

5. The Governor shall be Commander-in-chief of the militia and navy of this State, except when they shall be called into the service of the United States; but he need not command in person, unless advised so to do by a resolution of the General Assembly.

6. The Governor shall have power to remit fines and forfeitures, and, except in cases of impeachment, to grant reprieves and pardons.

7. The Governor shall, from time to time, give to the General

\* By an act of the General Assembly, approved December, 1822, the time of meeting of the General Assembly was changed to the third Monday in November; and, by a subsequent act, approved January 23, 1847, it was again changed to the last Monday in December.



Assembly information relative to the state of the government, and shall recommend to their consideration such measures as he may deem necessary and expedient. On extraordinary occasions, he may convene the General Assembly by proclamation, and shall state to them the purposes for which they are convened.

8. The Governor shall take care that the laws be distributed and faithfully executed; and he shall be a conservator of the peace throughout the State.

9. When any office shall become vacant, the Governor shall appoint a person to fill such vacancy, who shall continue in office until a successor be duly appointed and qualified according to law.

10. Every bill which shall have been passed by both houses of the General Assembly, shall before it becomes a law, be presented to the Governor for his approbation. If he approve, he shall sign it; if not, he shall return it, with his objections, to the house in which it shall have originated; and the house shall cause the objections to be entered at large on its journals, and shall proceed to reconsider the bill. If, after such reconsideration, a majority of all the members elected to that house shall agree to pass the same, it shall be sent, together with the objections, to the other house, by which it shall be in like manner reconsidered; and if approved by a majority of all the members elected to that house, it shall become a law. In all such cases, the votes of both houses shall be taken by yeas and nays, and the names of the members voting for and against the bill shall be entered on the journals of each house, respectively. If any bill shall not be returned by the Governor within ten days (Sundays excepted) after it shall have been presented to him, the same shall become a law, in like manner as if the Governor had signed it, unless the General Assembly, by its adjournment, shall prevent its return, in which case it shall not become a law.

11. Every resolution to which the concurrence of the Senate and House of Representatives may be necessary, except on cases of adjournment, shall be presented to the Governor; and, before the same shall take effect, shall be proceeded upon in the same manner as in the case of a bill.

12. [This section was abolished by the fifth section of the eighth article of Amendments, and the sixth section of the same article adopted in its stead.]

13. The Governor shall, at stated times, receive for his services an adequate salary, to be fixed by law, which shall neither be increased nor diminished during his continuance in office, and which shall never be less than two thousand dollars annually.\*

14. There shall be a Lieutenant-Governor, who shall be elected at the same time, in the same manner, for the same term, and shall possess the same qualifications as the Governor. The electors shall distinguish for whom they vote as Governor, and for whom as Lieutenant-Governor.

\* So much of this section as fixes the minimum of the Governor's salary, was abolished by the fifth section of the first article of Amendments.

15. The Lieutenant-Governor shall, by virtue of his office, be President of the Senate. In Committee of the Whole, he may debate on all questions; and, when there is an equal division, he shall give the casting vote in the Senate, and, also, in joint vote of both houses.

16. When the office of Governor shall become vacant, by death, resignation, absence from the State, removal from office, refusal to qualify, impeachment, or otherwise, the Lieutenant-Governor; or, in case of like disability on his part, the President of the Senate *pro tempore*; or, if there be no President of the Senate *pro tempore*, the Speaker of the House of Representatives, shall possess all the powers, and discharge all the duties of Governor, and shall receive for his services the like compensation, until such vacancy be filled, or the Governor, so absent or impeached, shall return or be acquitted.

17. Whenever the office of Governor shall become vacant, by death, resignation, removal from office, or otherwise, the Lieutenant-Governor, or other person exercising the powers of Governor for the time being, shall, as soon as may be, cause an election to be held to fill such vacancy, giving three months' previous notice thereof; and the person elected shall not thereby be rendered ineligible to the office of Governor for the next succeeding term. Nevertheless, if such vacancy shall happen within eighteen months of the end of the term for which the late Governor shall have been elected, the same shall not be filled.

18. The Lieutenant-Governor, or President of the Senate *pro tempore*, while presiding in the Senate, shall receive the same compensation as shall be allowed to the Speaker of the House of Representatives.

19. The returns of all elections of Governor and Lieutenant-Governor shall be made to the Secretary of State, in such manner as may be prescribed by law.

20. Contested elections of Governor and Lieutenant-Governor shall be decided by joint vote of both houses of the General Assembly, in such manner as may be prescribed by law.

21. [This section was abolished by the first section of the eighth article of Amendments, and section two of same article substituted.]

22. The Secretary of State shall, as soon as may be, procure a Seal of State, with such emblems and devices as shall be directed by law, which shall not be subject to change. It shall be called the "*Great Seal of the State of Missouri*"; shall be kept by the Secretary of State; and all official acts of the Governor, his approbation of the laws excepted, shall be thereby authenticated.

23. There shall be appointed in each county, a sheriff and a coroner, who, until the General Assembly shall otherwise provide, shall be elected by the qualified electors, at the time and place of electing representatives. They shall serve for two years, and until a successor be duly appointed and qualified, unless sooner removed for misdemeanor in office, and shall be ineligible four years in any period



of eight years. The sheriff and coroner shall each give security for the faithful discharge of the duties of his office, in such manner as shall be prescribed by law. Whenever a county shall be hereafter established, the Governor shall appoint a sheriff and coroner therein, who shall each continue in office until the next succeeding general election, and until a successor shall be duly qualified.

24. When vacancies happen in the office of sheriff or coroner, they shall be filled by appointment of the Governor; and the persons so appointed shall continue in office until successors shall be duly qualified, and shall not thereby be rendered ineligible for the next succeeding term.

25. In all elections of sheriff and coroner, when two or more persons have an equal number of votes, and a higher number than any other persons, the circuit courts of the counties, respectively, shall give the casting vote; and all contested elections for the said offices shall be decided by the circuit courts, respectively, in such manner as the General Assembly may, by law, prescribe.

#### ARTICLE V.—*Of the Judicial Power.*

SEC. 1. The judicial power, as to matters of law and equity, shall be vested in a "*Supreme Court*," [in a "*Chancellor*,"]\* in "*Circuit Courts*," and in such inferior tribunals as the General Assembly may, from time to time, ordain and establish.

2. The Supreme Court, except in cases otherwise directed by this Constitution, shall have appellate jurisdiction only, which shall be co-extensive with the State, under the restrictions and limitations in this Constitution provided.

3. The Supreme Court shall have a general superintending control over all inferior courts of law. It shall have power to issue writs of *Habeas Corpus*, *Mandamus*, *Quo Warranto*, *Certiorari*, and other original remedial writs; and to hear and determine the same.†

4. The Supreme Court shall consist of three Judges, any two of whom shall be a quorum; and the said Judges shall be conservators of the peace throughout the State.

5. The State shall be divided into convenient districts, not to exceed four, in each of which the Supreme Court shall hold two sessions annually, at such place as the General Assembly shall appoint; and, when sitting in either district, it shall exercise jurisdiction over causes originating in that district only: *Provided*, however, that the

\* By the first section of the first article of Amendments, the office of Chancellor was abolished, and chancery jurisdiction given to the Circuit and Supreme Courts. *Vide* sections 1 and 2 of article 1 of Amendments.

† *Stoner v. State*, 4 Mo. Rep., 614. *Ex parte*, Tancy, 11 Mo. Rep., 661. *Ex parte*, Ruthven, 17 Mo. Rep., 541.

*Vernon & Blake v. Boggs*, 1 Mo. Rep., 81. *Byrner v. Harrison*, 1 Mo. Rep., 160. *Dixon v. Circuit Court*, 4 Mo. Rep., 286. *Boyce v. Smith*, 16 Mo. Rep., 317.

*Ex parte*, Bellows, 1 Mo. Rep., 80. *State v. St. Louis Perpetual Insurance Company*, 8 Mo. Rep., 330.

1 Mo. Rep., 141. 4 Mo. Rep., 250.

*Blunt v. Sheppard*, 1 Mo. Rep., 156. *Jim (a slave) v. State*, 3 Mo. Rep., 147.

General Assembly may, at any time hereafter, direct, by law, that the said court shall be held at one place only.

6. The Circuit Court shall have jurisdiction over all criminal cases which shall not be otherwise provided for by law; and exclusive original jurisdiction in all civil cases which shall not be cognizable before justices of the peace, until otherwise directed by the General Assembly. It shall hold its terms in such place, in such county, as may be, by law, directed.

7. The State shall be divided into convenient circuits, for each of which a judge shall be appointed, who, after his appointment, shall reside, and be a conservator of the peace, within the circuit for which he shall be appointed.

8. The Circuit Court shall exercise a superintending control over all such inferior tribunals as the General Assembly may establish, and over justices of the peace in each county in their respective circuits.

9. [*Vide* sections 1 and 2 of the first article of Amendments.]

10. The Court of Chancery\* shall have original and appellate jurisdiction in all matters of equity, and a general control over executors, administrators, guardians and minors, subject to appeal, in all cases, to the Supreme Court, under such limitations as the General Assembly may, by law, provide.

11. Until the General Assembly shall deem it expedient to establish inferior courts of chancery, the circuit courts shall have jurisdiction in matters of equity, subject to appeal to the Court of Chancery, in such manner and under such restrictions as shall be prescribed by law.

12. Inferior tribunals shall be established in each county, for the transaction of all county business, for appointing guardians, for granting letters testamentary and of administration, and for settling the accounts of executors, administrators, and guardians.

13. [This section is abolished. *Vide*, sections 1, 2, 3, 6 and 7 art. 1; sec. 1, art. 2, and articles 4, 6, and 7 of Amendments.]

14. No person shall be appointed a Judge of the Supreme Court, nor of a Circuit Court, nor Chancellor, before he shall have attained to the age of thirty years; nor shall any person continue to exercise the duties of any of said offices after he shall have attained to the age of sixty-five years.

15. [The first paragraph of this section is abolished by sec. 2, art. 2, and sec. 3 of art. 2 of Amendments, substituted.] For any misdemeanor in office, they shall be liable to be tried and removed by the Supreme Court, in such manner as the General Assembly shall, by law, provide.

16. Any Judge of the Supreme Court, or the Circuit Court, [or the Chancellor,†] may be removed from office, on the address of two-thirds of each house of the General Assembly to the Governor for

\* *Vide* first article of Amendments.

† Sec. 1, art. 1, of Amendments.



that purpose: 'but each house shall state, on its respective journal, the cause for which it shall wish the removal of such Judge, [or Chancellor,] and give him notice thereof; and he shall have the right to be heard in his defense, in such manner as the General Assembly shall, by law, direct; but no Judge, [nor Chancellor,] shall be removed in this manner for any cause for which he might have been impeached.

17. In each county there shall be appointed as many justices of the peace as the public good may be thought to require. Their powers and duties, and their duration in office, shall be regulated by law.

18. [This section is abolished by section 3, article 8, of Amendments, and section 4 of the same article substituted.]

19. All writs and process shall run, and all prosecutions shall be conducted, in the name of the "*State of Missouri*;" all writs shall be tested by the clerk of the court from which they shall be issued; and all indictments shall conclude, "*against the peace and dignity of the State.*"\*

#### ARTICLE VI.—*Of Education.*

SEC. 1. Schools, and the means of education, shall forever be encouraged in this State; and the General Assembly shall take measures to preserve from waste or damage such lands as have been, or hereafter may be granted by 'the United States, for the use of schools within each township in this State, and shall apply the funds which may arise from such lands in strict conformity to the object of the grant. One school, or more, shall be established in each township, as soon as practicable and necessary, where the poor shall be taught gratis.

2. The General Assembly shall take measures for the improvement of such lands as have been, or hereafter may be granted by the United States to this State, for the support of a seminary of learning; and the funds accruing from such lands by rent or lease, or in any other manner, or which may be obtained from any other source, for the purposes aforesaid, shall be and remain a permanent fund to support a university for the promotion of literature, and of the arts and sciences; and it shall be the duty of the General Assembly, as soon as may be, to provide effectual means for the improvement of such lands, and for the improvement and permanent security of the funds and endowments of such institution.†

#### ARTICLE VII.—*Of Internal Improvement.*

Internal improvement shall forever be encouraged by the Government of this State; and it shall be the duty of the General Assembly, as soon as may be, to make provision, by law, for ascertaining

\* (Charless v. Marney, 1 Mo. Rep., 537. Fowler v. Watson, 4 Mo. Rep., 27. Little v. Little, 5 Mo. Rep., 227, overruled). Davis v. Wood, 7 Mo. Rep., 162.

† (Maupin v. Parker, 3 Mo. Rep., 310, affirmed.) Payne & Riggin v. St. Louis County, 8 Mo. Rep., 473.

the most proper objects of improvement, in relation both to roads and navigable waters; and it shall, also, be their duty to provide, by law, for a systematic and economical application of the funds appropriated to those objects.

#### ARTICLE VIII.—*Of Banks.*

The General Assembly shall have power to establish such bank, or banks, as may be deemed necessary for the interest of the State; but any bank so established, shall be based upon a specie capital, and made liable to redeem its issues in gold or silver: *Provided*, that the number of banks chartered shall never exceed ten, and the aggregate amount of capital shall never exceed twenty millions of dollars.

#### ARTICLE IX.—*Of the Militia.*

SEC. 1. Field officers and company officers shall be elected by the persons subject to militia duty within their respective commands. Brigadiers-General shall be elected by the field officers of their respective brigades; and Majors-General, by the brigadiers and field officers of their respective divisions, until otherwise directed by law.

2. General and field officers shall appoint their officers of the staff.

3. The Governor shall appoint an Adjutant-General, and all other militia officers whose appointments are not otherwise provided for in this Constitution.

#### ARTICLE X.—*Of Miscellaneous Provisions.*

SEC. 1. The General Assembly of this State shall never interfere with the primary disposal of the soil by the United States, nor with any regulation Congress may find necessary for securing the title in such soil to the *bona fide* purchasers. No tax shall be imposed on lands the property of the United States, nor shall lands belonging to persons residing out of the limits of this State ever be taxed higher than the lands belonging to persons residing within the State.

2. The State shall have concurrent jurisdiction on the river Mississippi, and on every other river bordering on the said State, so far as the said river shall form a common boundary to the said State and any other State or States now, or hereafter to be formed, and bounded by the same; and the said river Mississippi, and the navigable rivers and waters leading into the same, whether bordering on, or within this State, shall be common highways, and forever free to the citizens of this State and of the United States, without any tax, duty, impost or toll therefor imposed by the State.

#### ARTICLE XI.—*Of the Permanent Seat of Government.*

SEC. 1. The General Assembly, at their first session, shall appoint five commissioners for the purpose of selecting a place for the permanent Seat of Government, whose duty it shall be to select four



sections of the land of the United States, which shall not have been exposed to public sale.

2. If the commissioners believe the four sections of land, so by them to be selected be not a suitable and proper situation for the permanent Seat of Government, they shall select such other place as they may deem most proper for that purpose, and report the same to the General Assembly at the time of making their report, provided for in the first section of this article: *Provided*, That no place shall be selected which is not situated on the bank of the Missouri river, and within forty miles of the mouth of the river Osage.\*

3. If the General Assembly determine that the four sections of land which may be selected by authority of the first section of this article, be a suitable and proper place for the permanent seat of Government, the said Commissioners shall lay out a town thereon, under the direction of the General Assembly; but if the General Assembly deem it most expedient to fix the permanent seat of Government at the place to be selected by authority of the second section of this article, they shall so determine, and in that event shall authorize the said commissioners to purchase any quantity of land, not exceeding six hundred and forty acres, which may be necessary for the purpose aforesaid; and the place so selected shall be the permanent Seat of Government of this State, from and after the first day of October, one thousand eight hundred and twenty-six.

4. The General Assembly, in selecting the above-mentioned commissioners, shall choose one from each extreme part of the State, and one from the centre; and it shall require the concurrence of at least three of the commissioners to decide upon any part of the duties assigned them.

#### ARTICLE XII.—*Mode of Amending the Constitution.*

The General Assembly may, at any time, propose such amendments to this Constitution as two-thirds of each house shall deem expedient, which shall be published in all the newspapers published in this State, three several times, at least twelve months before the next general election; and if, at the first session of the General Assembly after such general election, two-thirds of each house shall, by yeas and nays, ratify such proposed amendments, they shall be valid, to all intents and purposes, as parts of this Constitution: *Provided*, That such proposed amendments shall be read on three several days, in each house, as well when the same are proposed, as when they are finally ratified.†

#### ARTICLE XIII.—*Declaration of Rights.*

That the general, great, and essential principles of liberty and free government may be recognized and established, WE DECLARE,—

1. That all political power is vested in, and derived from, the people:

\* *Lessieur v. Price*, 12 Mo. Rep., 14.

† *Vide State v. McBride*, 4 Mo. Rep., 303.

2. That the people of this State have the inherent, sole, and exclusive right of regulating the internal government, and police thereof, and of altering and abolishing their Constitution and form of government, whenever it may be necessary to their safety and happiness :

3. That the people have the right peaceably to assemble for their common good, and to apply to those vested with the powers of government for redress of grievances, by petition or remonstrance ; and that their right to bear arms in defence of themselves and of the State cannot be questioned :

4. That all men have a natural and indefeasible right to worship Almighty God according to the dictates of their own consciences ; that no man can be compelled to erect, support or attend any place of worship, or to maintain any minister of the Gospel or teacher of religion ; that no human authority can control or interfere with the rights of conscience ; that no person can ever be hurt, molested or restrained in his religious professions or sentiments, if he do not disturb others in their religious worship :

5. That no person, on account of his religious opinions, can be rendered ineligible to any office of trust or profit under this State ; that no preference can ever be given, by law, to any sect or mode of worship ; and that no religious corporation can ever be established in this State :

6. That all elections shall be free and equal :

7. That courts of justice ought to be open to every person, and certain remedy afforded for every injury to person, property, or character ; and that right and justice ought to be administered without sale, denial, or delay ; and that no private property ought to be taken or applied to public use, without just compensation :

8. That the right of trial by jury shall remain inviolate :\*

9. That, in all criminal prosecutions, the accused has the right to be heard by himself and his counsel ; to demand the nature and cause of accusation ; to have compulsory process for witnesses in his favor ; to meet the witnesses against him face to face ; and, in prosecutions on presentment or indictment, to a speedy trial by an impartial jury of the vicinage ; that the accused cannot be compelled to give evidence against himself, nor be deprived of life, liberty, or property, but by the judgment of his peers, or the law of the land.†

10. That no person, after having been once acquitted by a jury, can, for the same offense, be again put in jeopardy of life or limb ; but if, in any criminal prosecution, the jury be divided in opinion at the end of the term, the court before which the trial shall be had may, in its discretion, discharge the jury, and commit or bail the accused for trial at the next term of such court :‡

11. That all persons shall be bailable by sufficient sureties, except

\* *Vide* McGunnege *v.* State, 6 Mo. Rep., 367.

† *State v. Stein*, 2 Mo. Rep., 68. *State v. Ledford*, 3 Mo. Rep., 102.

‡ *Vide* *State v. Spear*, 6 Mo. Rep., 644.



for capital offenses, when the proof is evident or the presumption great; and the privilege of the writ of *habeas corpus* cannot be suspended, unless when, in cases of rebellion or invasion, the public safety may require it:\*

12. That excessive bail shall not be required, nor excessive fines imposed, nor cruel and unusual punishments inflicted:

13. That the people ought to be secure in their persons, papers, houses, and effects, from unreasonable searches and seizures; and no warrant to search any place, or seize any person or thing, can issue, without describing the place to be searched, or the person or thing to be seized, as nearly as may be, nor without probable cause, supported by oath or affirmation:

14. That no person can, for an indictable offense, be proceeded against criminally by information, except in cases arising in the land or naval forces, or in the militia, when in actual service in time of war or public danger, or by leave of the court, for oppression or misdemeanor in office:

15. That treason against the State can consist only in levying war against it, or in adhering to its enemies, giving them aid and comfort; that no person can be convicted of treason, unless on the testimony of two witnesses to the same overt act, or on his own confession in open court; that no person can be attainted of treason or felony by the General Assembly; that no conviction can work corruption of blood or forfeiture of estate; that the estates of such persons as may destroy their own lives shall descend or vest, as in cases of natural death; and when any person shall be killed by casualty, there ought to be no forfeiture by reason thereof:

16. That the free communication of thoughts and opinions is one of the invaluable rights of man, and that every person may freely speak, write, and print on any subject, being responsible for the abuse of that liberty; that in all prosecutions for libels, the truth thereof may be given in evidence, and the jury may determine the law and the facts, under the direction of the court:

17. That no *ex post facto* law, nor law impairing the obligation of contracts, or retrospective in its operation, can be passed; nor can the person of a debtor be imprisoned for debt after he shall have surrendered his property for the benefit of his creditors, in such manner as may be prescribed by law:†

18. That no person who is religiously scrupulous of bearing arms, can be compelled to do so, but may be compelled to pay an equivalent for military service, in such manner as shall be prescribed by law; and that no priest, preacher of the gospel, or teacher of any religious persuasion, or sect, regularly ordained as such, be subject to militia duty, or compelled to bear arms:

19. That all property subject to taxation in this State shall be taxed in proportion to its value:

\* *Vide*, *Shore v. State*, 6 Mo. Rep., 640.

† 1 Mo. Rep., 164; 1 Mo. Rep., 209; 4 Mo. Rep., 50; 4 Mo. Rep., 120; 6 Mo. Rep., 166; 1 Cranch's Rep., 137.

20. That no title of nobility, hereditary emolument, privilege or distinction, shall be granted, nor any office created, the duration of which shall be longer than the good behavior of the officer appointed to fill the same :

21. That migration from this State cannot be prohibited :

22. That the military is, and, in all cases and all times, shall be, in strict subordination to the civil power ; that no soldier can, in time of peace, be quartered in any house without the consent of the owner ; nor in time of war, but in such manner as may be prescribed by law ; nor can any appropriation for the support of an army be made for a longer period than two years.

### SCHEDULE.

SEC. 1. That no inconvenience may arise from the change of government, we declare that all writs, actions, prosecutions, judgments, claims, and contracts of individuals and of bodies corporate, shall continue as if no change had taken place ; and all process which may, before the third Monday in September next, be issued under the authority of the Territory of Missouri, shall be as valid as if issued in the name of the State.

2. All laws now in force in the Territory of Missouri, which are not repugnant to this Constitution, shall remain in force until they expire by their own limitations, or be altered or repealed by the General Assembly.

3. All fines, penalties, forfeitures, and escheats, accruing to the Territory of Missouri, shall accrue to the use of the State.

4. All recognizances heretofore taken, or which may be taken before the third Monday in September next, shall remain valid, and shall pass over to, and may be prosecuted in the name of the State ; and all bonds executed to the Governor of the Territory, or to any other officer or court in his official capacity, shall pass over to the Governor or other proper State authority, and to their successors in office, for the uses therein respectively expressed, and may be sued for and recovered accordingly. All criminal prosecutions and penal actions which have arisen, or which may arise, before the third Monday in September next, and which shall then be depending, shall be prosecuted to judgment and execution in the name of the State. All actions at law which now are, or which, on the third Monday in September next, may be depending in any of the courts of record in the Territory of Missouri, may be commenced in, or transferred to, any court of record of the State which shall have jurisdiction of the subject matter thereof ; and all suits in equity may, in like manner, be commenced in, or transferred to, the Court of Chancery.

5. All officers, civil and military, now holding commissions under authority of the United States, or of the Territory of Missouri, shall continue to hold and exercise their respective offices until they shall be superseded under the authority of the State ; and all such officers



holding commissions under the authority of the territory of Missouri, shall receive the same compensation which they have hitherto received, in proportion to the time they shall be so employed.

6. The first meeting of the General Assembly shall be at St. Louis, with power to adjourn to any other place; and the General Assembly, at the first session thereof, shall fix the Seat of Government until the first day of October, one thousand eight hundred and twenty-six; and the first session of the General Assembly shall have power to fix the compensation of the members thereof, any thing in the Constitution to the contrary notwithstanding.

7. Until the first enumeration shall be made, as directed in this Constitution, the county of Howard shall be entitled to eight representatives; the county of Cooper, to four representatives; the county of Montgomery, to two representatives; the county of Lincoln, to one representative; the county of Pike, to two representatives; the county of St. Charles, to three representatives; the county of St. Louis, to six representatives; the county of Franklin, to two representatives; the county of Jefferson, to one representative; the county of Washington, to two representatives; the county of Ste. Genevieve, to four representatives; the county of Cape Girardeau, to four representatives; the county of New Madrid, to two representatives; the county of Madison, to one representative; the county of Wayne, to one representative; and that part of the county of Lawrence situated within this State, shall attach to, and form part of, the county of Wayne, until otherwise provided by law; and the sheriff of the county of Wayne shall appoint the judges of the first election, and the place of holding the same, in the part thus attached; and any person who shall have resided within the limits of this State five months previous to the adoption of this Constitution, and who shall be otherwise qualified, as prescribed in the third section of the third article thereof, shall be eligible to the House of Representatives, any thing in this Constitution to the contrary notwithstanding.

8. For the first election of Senators, the State shall be divided into districts, and the apportionment shall be as follows, that is to say: The counties of Howard and Cooper shall compose one district, and elect four Senators; the counties of Montgomery and Franklin shall compose one district, and elect one Senator; the county of St. Charles shall compose one district, and elect one Senator; the counties of Lincoln and Pike shall compose one district, and elect one Senator; the county of St. Louis shall compose one district, and elect two Senators; the counties of Washington and Jefferson shall compose one district, and elect one Senator; the county of Ste. Genevieve shall compose one district, and elect one Senator; the counties of Madison and Wayne shall compose one district, and elect one Senator; the counties of Cape Girardeau and New Madrid shall compose one district, and elect two Senators; and in all cases where a senatorial district consists of more than one county, it shall be the duty of the clerk of the county second named

in that district, to certify the returns of the senatorial election within their proper county, to the clerk of the county first named, within five days after he shall have received the same; and any person who shall have resided within the limits of this State five months previous to the adoption of this Constitution, and who shall be otherwise qualified, as prescribed in the fifth section of the third article thereof, shall be eligible to the Senate of this State, any thing in this Constitution to the contrary notwithstanding.

9. The President of the Convention shall issue writs of election to the sheriffs of the several counties, (or, in case of vacancy, to the coroners,) requiring them to cause an election to be held on the fourth Monday in August next, for a Governor; a Lieutenant-Governor; a Representative in the Congress of the United States, for the residue of the sixteenth Congress; a Representative for the seventeenth Congress: Senators and Representatives for the General Assembly; Sheriffs and Coroners;—and the returns of all township elections held in pursuance thereof, shall be made to the clerk of the proper county within five days after the day of election; and any person who shall reside within the limits of this State at the time of the adoption of this Constitution, and who shall be otherwise qualified, as prescribed in the tenth section of the third article thereof, shall be deemed a qualified elector, any thing in this Constitution to the contrary notwithstanding.

10. The elections shall be conducted according to the existing laws of the Missouri Territory. The clerks of the circuit courts of the several counties shall certify the returns of the election of Governor and Lieutenant-Governor, and transmit the same to the Speaker of the House of Representatives, at the temporary Seat of Government, in such time that they may be received on the third Monday of September next. As soon as the General Assembly shall be organized, the Speaker of the House of Representatives, and the President, *pro tempore*, of the Senate shall, in the presence of both houses, examine the returns, and declare who are duly elected to fill those offices; and if any two or more persons shall have an equal number of votes, and a higher number than any other person, the General Assembly shall determine the election in the manner hereinbefore provided; and the returns of the election for Member of Congress shall be made to the Secretary of State within thirty days after the day of election.

11. The oaths of office herein directed to be taken, may be administered by any judge or justice of the peace, until the General Assembly shall otherwise direct.

12. Until a Seal of State be provided, the Governor may use his private seal.

Done by the Representatives of the people of Missouri, in Convention assembled, at the town of Saint Louis, on the nineteenth day of July, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and twenty, and of the independence of the United States of America the forty-fifth.



## AMENDMENTS TO THE CONSTITUTION.

ARTICLE I.—*Ratified, 1822.*

SEC. 1. The office of Chancellor is hereby abolished, and the Supreme Court and Circuit Courts shall exercise chancery jurisdiction, in such manner and under such restrictions as shall be prescribed by law.\*

2. The judicial power, as to matters of law and equity, shall be vested in a Supreme Court, in Circuit Courts, and in such inferior tribunals as the General Assembly may, from time to time, ordain and establish: *Provided*, The General Assembly may establish a court or courts of chancery, and, from time to time, prescribe the jurisdiction, powers, and duties thereof.

3. The Judges of the Supreme Court, and the Judges of the Circuit Courts, and Chancellor, shall, at stated times, receive a compensation for their services, to be fixed by law.

4. No person holding an office of profit under the United States, and commissioned by the President, shall, during his continuance in such office, be eligible, appointed to, hold, or exercise any office of profit under this State.

5. So much of the thirteenth section of the fourth article of the Constitution of this State, as provides that the compensation of the Governor shall never be less than two thousand dollars annually, shall be repealed.

6. So much of the thirteenth section of the fifth article of the Constitution of this State, as provides that the compensation of the Judges of the Supreme and Circuit Courts, and Chancellor, shall never be less than two thousand dollars annually, shall be repealed.

7. The offices of the Judges of the Supreme Court and of the Judges of the Circuit Courts, shall expire at the end of the first session of the next General Assembly of this State, or as soon as their successors are, respectively, elected and qualified.

ARTICLE II.—*Ratified at the Session of 1834–5.*

SEC. 1. That the offices of the several Judges of the Circuit Courts within this State, shall be vacated on the first day of January, 1836.†

2. That so much of the fifteenth section of the fifth article of the Constitution of this State, as provides that the courts, respectively, shall appoint their clerks, and that they shall hold their offices during good behavior, shall be, and the same is hereby, abolished.

3. That the offices of the clerks of the several courts within this State, shall be vacated on the first day of January, one thousand eight hundred and thirty-six; and the clerks of the circuit and

\* *Vide* sec. 1, art. 5 of the Constitution.

† *State v. McBride*, 4 Mo. Rep., 303.

county courts of the respective counties, shall be elected by the qualified electors of their respective counties, and shall hold their offices for the term of six years, and until their successors are duly elected, commissioned, and qualified.

4. That the boundary of this State be so altered and extended as to include all that tract of land lying on the north side of the Missouri river, and west of the present boundary of this State, so that the same shall be bounded on the south by the middle of the main channel of the Missouri river, and on the north by the present northern boundary line of the State, as established by the Constitution, when the same is continued in a right line to the west, or to include so much of said tract of land as Congress may assent.\*

ARTICLE III.—*Ratified at the Session of 1848-9.*

SEC. 1. The House of Representatives shall consist of members to be chosen every second year, by the qualified electors of the several counties, apportioned in the following manner, to wit: The ratio of representation shall be ascertained at each apportioning session of the Legislature, by dividing the whole number of permanent free white inhabitants of the State, by the number of one hundred and forty; each county having said ratio, or less, shall be entitled to one Representative; each county having said ratio and a fraction over, equal to three-fourths, shall be entitled to two Representatives; each county having three times said ratio, shall be entitled to three Representatives; each county having four times said ratio and a fraction over, equal to one-half, shall be entitled to four Representatives; each county having six times said ratio, shall be entitled to five Representatives; each county having eight times said ratio, shall be entitled to six Representatives; each county having ten times said ratio, shall be entitled to seven Representatives; each county having thirteen times said ratio, shall be entitled to eight Representatives; each county having fifteen times said ratio, shall be entitled to nine Representatives; each county having eighteen times said ratio, shall be entitled to ten Representatives; each county having twenty-two times said ratio, shall be entitled to eleven Representatives; each county having twenty-four times said ratio, shall be entitled to twelve Representatives; any county having more than twenty-four times said ratio, shall be represented in the same proportion. And the General Assembly, which shall meet in the year eighteen hundred and forty-eight, and every fourth year thereafter, shall apportion the number of Representatives among the several counties as herein directed. No county now established by law shall ever be reduced, by the establishment of new counties, to less than twenty miles square, nor to less than five hundred square miles, nor below the ratio of representation then required; nor shall any county be hereafter established, containing less than five hundred

\* *Vide* Article 1 of the Constitution, and note thereto.



square miles ; nor shall any county hereafter established, be entitled to separate representation, unless the number of permanent free white inhabitants therein shall, at the time, be equal to three-fourths of the ratio of representation then being, but may be organized with a smaller number for all other purposes, civil and military.\* The second, fourth, twenty-fourth, and thirty-fourth sections of the third article of the Constitution, are hereby abolished.

ARTICLE IV.—*Ratified at the Session of 1848–9.*

[This article was abolished by the adoption of articles six and seven of Amendments.]

ARTICLE V.—*Ratified at the Session of 1848–9.*

SEC. 1. If there be a vacancy in the office of judge of any circuit, or if he be sick, absent, or, from any cause, unable to hold any term of court of any county of his circuit, such term of court may be held by a judge of any other circuit ; and, at the request of the judge of any circuit, any term of court in his circuit may be held by the judge of any other circuit.

ARTICLE VI.—*Ratified at the Session of 1850–1.*

SEC. 1. That, hereafter, the Judges of the Supreme Court shall be elected by the qualified electors of the State ; and each shall hold his office for the term of six years only, but may continue in office until his successor shall be elected and qualified ; and if any vacancy shall happen in the office of any Judge of the Supreme Court, by death, resignation, removal out of the State, or by any other disqualification, the Governor shall, upon being satisfied that a vacancy exists, issue a writ of election to fill such vacancy ; but every election to fill a vacancy shall be for the residue of the term only. The General Assembly shall provide, by law, for the election of said judges by the qualified voters in the State ; and in case of a tie, or a contested election, between the candidates, the same shall be determined in the manner to be prescribed by law ; and the General Assembly shall, also, provide for an election to fill any vacancy which shall occur at any time within twelve months preceding a general election for said judges. The first general election for Supreme Court Judges, shall be on the first Monday in August, A. D. 1851, and on the first Monday in August every six years thereafter. If a vacancy shall occur in the office of a Supreme Court Judge, less than twelve months before a general election for said judges, such vacancy shall be filled by an appointment by the Governor ; and the judge so appointed shall hold his office only until the next general election for said judges.

2. The offices of the several Supreme Court Judges shall be vacated on the first Monday in August, A. D. 1851 ; and all parts

\* State v. Scott, 17 Mo. Rep., 521.

of the original Constitution, or of any amendment thereto, inconsistent with, or repugnant to, this amendment, are hereby abolished.

ARTICLE VII.—*Ratified at the Session of 1850–1.*

SEC. 1. That so much of the thirteenth section of the fifth article of the Constitution of this State, ratified at the present session of the General Assembly, as provides that the Governor shall nominate, and, by and with the advice and consent of the Senate, appoint the Judges of the Circuit Courts, and that each Judge of the Circuit Courts shall be appointed for the term of eight years, and that every appointment to fill a vacancy of such judge shall be for the residue of the term only, is hereby abolished; and hereafter each Judge of the Circuit Courts shall be elected by the qualified electors of their respective circuits, and shall be elected for the term of six years, but may continue in office until his successor shall be elected and qualified; and if any vacancy shall happen in the office of any circuit judge, by death, resignation, removal out of his circuit, or by any other disqualification, the Governor shall, upon being satisfied that a vacancy exists, issue a writ of election to fill such vacancy: *Provided*, That said vacancy shall happen at least six months before the next general election for said judge; but if such vacancy shall happen within six months of the general election aforesaid, the Governor shall appoint a judge for such circuit; but every such election or appointment to fill a vacancy, shall be for the residue of the term only. And the General Assembly shall provide, by law, for the election of said judges in their respective circuits; and, in case of a tie, or contested election, between the candidates, the same shall be determined in the manner to be prescribed by law. And the General Assembly shall provide, by law, for the election of said judges in their respective circuits, to fill any vacancy which shall occur at any time at least six months before a general election for said judges. The first general election for circuit judges shall be on the first Monday in August, A. D. 1851, and on the first Monday in August every six years thereafter. No judicial circuit shall be altered or changed at any session of the General Assembly next preceding the general election for said judges. The offices of the several circuit judges shall be vacated on the first Monday in August, A. D. 1851.

ARTICLE VIII.—*Ratified at the Session of 1850–1.*

SEC. 1. That the twenty-first section of the fourth article of the Constitution of the State of Missouri be, and the same is hereby, abolished.

2. There shall be a Secretary of State, who shall be elected by the qualified voters of this State, at such time and in such manner as shall be provided by law. He shall hold his office for four years, unless sooner removed by an impeachment. He shall keep a register of the official acts of the Governor, and, when necessary, shall



attest them ; and he shall lay the same, together with all papers relating thereto, before either house of the General Assembly, whenever required so to do, and shall perform such other duties as may be enjoined on him by law.\*

3. The eighteenth section of the fifth article of the Constitution of the State of Missouri is hereby abolished.

4. There shall be an Attorney-General, who shall be elected by the qualified voters of this State, at such times and in such manner as shall be provided by law. He shall remain in office four years, and shall perform such duties as shall be required of him by law.

5. The twelfth section of the fourth article of the Constitution of this State is hereby abolished.

6. There shall be an Auditor of Public Accounts, who shall be elected by the qualified voters of this State, at such times and in such manner as shall be provided by law. He shall remain in office four years, and shall perform such duties as shall be required of him by law. His office shall be kept at the Seat of Government.

7. The thirty-first section of the third article of the Constitution of this State is hereby abolished.

8. A State Treasurer shall be elected by the qualified voters of this State, at such times and in such manner as shall be provided by law, who shall continue in office for four years, and who shall keep his office at the Seat of Government. No money shall be drawn from the Treasury but in consequence of appropriations made by law, and an accurate account of the receipts and expenditures of the public money shall annually be published.

9. There shall be a Register of Lands elected by the qualified voters of this State, at such time and in such manner as shall be provided by law. He shall hold his office for four years, shall keep his office at the Seat of Government, and shall perform such duties as shall be required of him by law.

#### ARTICLE IX.—*Ratified at the Session of 1852–3.*

SEC. 1. The Legislature shall have no power to grant divorces, but may authorize the courts of justice to grant them, for such causes as may be specified by law : *Provided*, That such laws be general and uniform in their operation throughout the State.†

#### ARTICLE X.—*Ratified at the Session of 1854–5.*

SEC. 1. That all that territory now known as the county of Schuyler, is hereby declared to constitute a constitutional county, and, as such, shall be entitled to all the privileges, civil and political, which now belong to any county within the State of Missouri.

\* This amendment did not create a vacancy in the office of Secretary of State. The incumbent continued to hold his office until his successor was elected, pursuant to the law passed under this amendment; but, after his successor was thus elected, he ceased to be the officer, although the term for which he was appointed, under the original Constitution, had not expired. *State v. Ewing*, 17 Mo. Rep., 515.

† *State v. Fry and others*, 4 Mo. Rep., 120. *Bryson v. Campbell*, 12 Mo. Rep., 498. *Bryson v. Bryson*, 17 Mo. Rep., 590.





## ARKANSAS.



ARKANSAS was a part of the Louisiana purchase. It became a separate territory in 1819, and in 1836 it adopted its Constitution and was admitted into the union as a sovereign State. It derives its name from the great river which runs through it.

Area, 54,500 sq. m. Pop. in 1850, 209,639, of whom 46,982 were slaves, and 587 Free colored. Pop. in 1855, 247,112.

## CONSTITUTION.

WE, the people of the Territory of Arkansas, by our representatives, in Convention assembled at Little Rock, on Monday, the 4th day of January, A. D. 1836, and of the independence of the United States the sixtieth year, having the right of admission into the Union as one of the United States of America, consistent with the federal Constitution, and by virtue of the treaty of cession by France to the United States, of the province of Louisiana, in order to secure to ourselves and our posterity the enjoyment of all the rights of life, liberty, and property, and the free pursuit of happiness, do mutually agree with each other to form ourselves into a free and independent State, by the name and style of "The State of Arkansas," and do ordain and establish the following Constitution for the government thereof.

ARTICLE I.—*Of Boundaries.*

We do declare and establish, ratify and confirm, the following as the permanent boundaries of said State of Arkansas, that is to say: Beginning in the main channel of the Mississippi river, on the parallel of thirty-six degrees north latitude; running from thence west, with the said parallel of latitude, to the St. Francis river; thence up the middle of the main channel of said river to the parallel of thirty-six degrees thirty minutes north; from thence west, to the south-west corner of the State of Missouri; and thence to be bounded on the west, to the north bank of Red river, as by acts of Congress and treaties heretofore defining the western limits of the territory of Arkansas; and to be bounded on the south side of Red river by the Mexican boundary line, to the north-west corner of the State of Louisiana; thence east, with the Louisiana State line, to the middle of the main channel of the Mississippi river; thence up the middle of the main channel of said river to the thirty-sixth degree of north latitude, the point of beginning.

ARTICLE II.—*Declaration of Rights.*

That the great and essential principles of liberty and free government may be recognized and unalterably established, we declare:

SEC. 1. That all freemen, when they form a social compact, are equal, and have certain inherent and indefeasible rights, among which are those of enjoying and defending life and liberty; of acquiring, possessing, and protecting property and reputation; and of pursuing their own happiness.

2. That all power is inherent in the people; and all free governments are founded on their authority, and instituted for their peace, safety, and happiness. For the advancement of these ends, they have, at all times, an unqualified right to alter, reform, or abolish their government, in such manner as they may think proper.

3. That all men have a natural and indefeasible right to worship Almighty God according to the dictates of their own consciences; and no man can of right be compelled to attend, erect, or support any place of worship, or to maintain any ministry, against his consent. That no human authority can, in any case whatever, interfere with the rights of conscience; and that no preference shall ever be given to any religious establishment or mode of worship.

4. That the civil rights, privileges, or capacities of any citizen shall in no wise be diminished or enlarged, on account of his religion.

5. That all elections shall be free and equal.

6. That the right of trial by jury shall remain inviolate.

7. That printing presses shall be free to every person; and no law shall ever be made to restrain the rights thereof. The free communication of thoughts and opinions is one of the invaluable rights of man, and every citizen may freely speak, write, and print, on any subject, being responsible for the abuse of that liberty.

8. In prosecutions for the publication of papers investigating the official conduct of officers or men in public capacity, or where the matter published is proper for public information, the truth thereof may be given in evidence; and in all indictments for libels, the jury may have the right to determine the law and the facts.

9. That the people shall be secure in their persons, houses, papers, and possessions, from unreasonable searches and seizures; and that general warrants, whereby any officer may be commanded to search suspected places, without evidence of the fact committed, or to seize any person or persons not named, whose offences are not particularly described, and supported by evidence, are dangerous to liberty, and shall not be granted.

10. That no freeman shall be taken or imprisoned, or disseized of his freehold, liberties, or privileges, or outlawed, or exiled, or in any manner destroyed or deprived of his life, liberty, or property, but by the judgment of his peers, or the law of the land.



11. That in all criminal prosecutions, the accused hath a right to be heard, by himself and counsel; to demand the nature and cause of the accusation against him, and to have a copy thereof; to meet the witnesses face to face; to have compulsory process for obtaining witnesses in his favor; and, in prosecutions by indictment or presentment, a speedy public trial, by an impartial jury of the county or district in which the crime shall have been committed; and shall not be compelled to give evidence against himself.

12. That no person shall, for the same offence, be twice put in jeopardy of life or limb.

13. That all penalties shall be reasonable, and proportioned to the nature of the offence.

14. That no man shall be put to answer any criminal charge, but by presentment, indictment, or impeachment.

15. That no conviction shall work corruption of blood, or forfeiture of estate.

16. That all prisoners shall be bailable by sufficient securities, unless in capital offences, where the proof is evident, or the presumption great; and the privilege of the writ of habeas corpus shall not be suspended, unless where, in case of rebellion or invasion, the public safety may require it.

17. That excessive bail shall in no case be required, nor excessive fines imposed.

18. That no *ex post facto* law, nor any law impairing the obligation of contracts, shall ever be made.

19. That perpetuities and monopolies are contrary to the genius of a republic, and shall not be allowed; nor shall any hereditary emoluments, privileges, or honors ever be granted or conferred in this State.

20. That the citizens have a right, in a peaceable manner, to assemble together for their common good, to instruct their representatives, and apply to those invested with the power of government for redress of grievances, or other proper purposes, by address or remonstrance.

21. That the free white men of this State shall have a right to keep and to bear arms for their common defense.

22. That no soldier shall, in time of peace, be quartered in any house, without the consent of the owner; nor, in time of war, but in a manner prescribed by law.

23. The military shall be kept in strict subordination to the civil power.

24. This enumeration of rights shall not be construed to deny or disparage others retained by the people; and, to guard against any encroachments on the rights herein retained, or any transgression of any of the higher powers herein delegated, we declare, that everything in this article is excepted out of the general powers of government, and shall forever remain inviolate; and that all laws contrary thereto, or to the other provisions herein contained, shall be void.

### ARTICLE III. ●

SEC. 1. The powers of the government of the State of Arkansas shall be divided into three distinct departments, each of them to be confided to a separate body of magistracy, to wit: those which are legislative, to one; those which are executive, to another; and those which are judicial, to another.

2. No person, or collection of persons, being of one of these departments, shall exercise any power properly belonging to either of the others; except in the instances hereinafter expressly directed or permitted.

### ARTICLE IV.—*Legislative Department.*

SEC. 1. The legislative power of this State shall be vested in a General Assembly, which shall consist of a Senate and House of Representatives.

#### *Qualifications of Electors.*

2. Every free white male citizen of the United States, who shall have attained the age of twenty-one years, and who shall have been a citizen of this State six months, shall be deemed a qualified elector, and be entitled to vote in the county or district where he actually resides, for each and every office made

elective under this State or the United States: Provided, that no soldier, seaman, or marine in the army or navy of the United States, shall be entitled to vote at any election within this State.

*Time of choosing Representatives.*

2. The House of Representatives shall consist of members to be chosen every second year by the qualified electors of the several counties.

*Qualifications of a Representative.*

4. No person shall be a member of the House of Representatives, who shall not have attained the age of twenty-five years; who shall not be a free white male citizen of the United States; who shall not, at the time of his election, have an actual residence in the county he may be chosen to represent.

*Qualifications of a Senator.*

5. The Senate shall consist of members to be chosen every four years by the qualified electors of the several districts.

6. No person shall be a senator who shall not have attained the age of thirty years; who shall not be a free white male citizen of the United States; who shall not have been an inhabitant of this State one year; and who shall not, at the time of his election, have an actual residence in the district he may be chosen to represent.

*Meeting of the General Assembly.*

7. The General Assembly shall meet every two years, on the first Monday of November, at the seat of government, until altered by law.

*The Mode of Election, and Time, and Privilege of Electors.*

8. All general elections shall be *viva voce*, until otherwise directed by law, and shall commence and be holden every two years, on the first Monday in October, until altered by law; and the electors in all cases, except in cases of treason, felony, and breach of the peace, shall be privileged from arrest during their attendance on elections, and in going to and returning therefrom.

*Duty of Governor.*

9. The Governor shall issue writs of election, to fill such vacancies as shall occur in either house of the General Assembly.

10. No judge of the Supreme, Circuit, or inferior courts of law or equity. Secretary of State, Attorney for the United States, State auditor or treasurer, register or recorder, clerk of any court of record, sheriff, coroner, member of Congress, nor any other person holding any lucrative office under the United States, or this State, (militia officers, justices of the peace, postmasters, and judges of the county courts, excepted,) shall be eligible to a seat in either house of the General Assembly.

11. No person who now is, or shall be hereafter, a collector, or holder of public money, nor any assistant or deputy of such holder or collector of public money, shall be eligible to a seat in either house of the General Assembly, nor to any office of profit or trust, until he shall have accounted for and paid over all sums for which he may have been liable.

12. The General Assembly shall exclude from every office of trust and profit, and from the right of suffrage within this State, all persons convicted of bribery, perjury, or other infamous crime.

13. Every person who shall have been convicted of directly or indirectly giving or offering any bribe, to procure his election or appointment, shall be disqualified from holding any office of trust or profit in this State; and any person who shall give or offer any bribe to procure the election or appointment of any person, shall, on conviction thereof, be disqualified from being an elector, or from holding any office of trust or profit under this State.

14. No senator nor representative shall, during the term for which he shall have been elected, be appointed to any civil office under this State, which shall



have been created, or the emoluments of which shall have been increased, during his continuance in office; except such offices as shall be filled by the election of the people.

15. Each house shall appoint its own officers, and shall judge of the qualifications, returns, and elections of its own members. Two-thirds of each house shall constitute a quorum to do business; but a smaller number may adjourn from day to day, and compel the attendance of absent members, in such manner and under such penalties as each house shall provide.

16. Each house may determine rules for its own proceedings, punish its own members for disorderly behavior, and, with the concurrence of two-thirds of the members elected, expel a member; but no member shall be expelled a second time for the same offence. They shall each, from time to time, publish a journal of their proceedings, except such parts as may, in their opinion, require secrecy; and the yeas and nays on any question shall be entered on the journal at the desire of any five members.

17. The door of each house, when in session, or in committee of the whole, shall be kept open, except in cases which may require secrecy: and each house may punish, by fine and imprisonment, any person, not a member, who shall be guilty of disrespect to the house, by any disorderly or contemptuous behavior in their presence during their session; but such imprisonment shall not extend beyond the final adjournment of that session.

18. Bills may originate in either house, and be amended or rejected in the other; and every bill shall be read on three different days in each house, unless two-thirds of the house where the same is pending shall dispense with the rules; and every bill having passed both houses shall be signed by the President of the Senate and the Speaker of the House of Representatives.

19. Whenever an officer, civil or military, shall be appointed by the joint or concurrent vote of both houses, or by the separate vote of either house of the General Assembly, the vote shall be given *viva voce*, and entered on the journal.

20. The senators and representatives shall, in all cases except treason, felony, or breach of the peace, be privileged from arrest during the session of the General Assembly, and for fifteen days before the commencement and after the termination of each session; and for any speech or debate in either house they shall not be questioned in any other place.

21. The members of the General Assembly shall severally receive from the public treasury compensation for their services, which may be increased or diminished; but no alteration of such compensation of members shall take effect during the session at which it is made.

*The manner of bringing Suits against the State.*

22. The General Assembly shall direct, by law, in what courts and in what manner suits may be commenced against the State.

23. They shall have power to pass all laws that are necessary to prohibit the introduction in this State of any slave or slaves who may have committed any high crime in any other State or Territory.

24. The General Assembly shall not have power to pass any bill of divorce; but may prescribe by law the manner in which such cases shall be investigated in the courts of justice, and divorces granted.

25. The General Assembly shall have power to prohibit the introduction of any slave or slaves for the purpose of speculation, or as an article of trade and merchandise; to oblige the owners of any slave or slaves to treat them with humanity; and in the prosecution of slaves for any crime, they shall not be deprived of an impartial jury; and any slave who shall be convicted of a capital offence shall suffer the same degree of punishment as would be inflicted on a free white person, and no other; and courts of justice, before whom slaves shall be tried, shall assign them counsel for their defense.

26. The Governor, Secretary of State, auditor, treasurer, and all the judges of the Supreme, Circuit, and inferior courts of law and equity, and the prosecuting attorney for the State, shall be liable to impeachment for any malprac-

tice or misdemeanor in office; but judgment in such cases shall not extend farther than removal from office, and disqualification to hold any office of honor, trust, or profit, under this State. The party impeached, whether convicted or acquitted, shall nevertheless be liable to be indicted, tried, and punished according to law.

27. The House of Representatives shall have the sole power of impeachment; and all impeachments shall be tried by the Senate; and when sitting for that purpose, the senators shall be on oath or affirmation to do justice according to law and evidence. When the Governor shall be tried, the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court shall preside; and no person shall be convicted without the concurrence of two-thirds of all the senators elected; and for reasonable cause, which shall not be sufficient ground of impeachment, the Governor shall, on the joint address of two-thirds of each branch of the General Assembly, remove from office the judges of the Supreme and inferior courts: Provided, the cause or causes of removal be spread on the journals, and the party charged be notified of the same, heard by himself and counsel, before the vote is finally taken and decided.

28. The appointment of all officers not otherwise directed by this Constitution, shall be made in such manner as may be prescribed by law; and all officers, both civil and military, acting under the authority of this State, shall before entry on the duties of their respective offices, take an oath or affirmation to support the Constitution of the United States, and of this State, and to demean themselves faithfully in office.

29. No county now established by law shall ever be reduced, by the establishment of any new county or counties, to less than nine hundred square miles, nor to a less population than its ratio of representation in the House of Representatives; nor shall any county be hereafter established which shall contain less than nine hundred square miles, (except Washington county, which may be reduced to six hundred square miles,) or a less population than would entitle such county to a member in the House of Representatives.

30. The style of the laws of the State shall be, "*Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Arkansas.*"

31. The State shall, from time to time, be divided into convenient districts in such manner that the Senate shall be based upon the free white male inhabitants of the State, each senator representing an equal number, as nearly as practicable.

And the Senate shall never consist of less than seventeen nor more than thirty-three members; and as soon as the Senate shall meet after the first election to be held under the Constitution, they shall cause the senators to be divided by lot, into two classes, nine of the first class and eight of the second class; and the seats of the first class shall be vacated at the end of two years from the time of their election, and the seats of the second class at the end of four years from the time of their election; in order that one class of the senators may be elected every two years.

32. An enumeration of the inhabitants of the State shall be taken under the direction of the General Assembly, on the first day of January, one thousand eight hundred and thirty-eight, and at the end of every four years thereafter; and the General Assembly shall, at the first session after the return of every enumeration, so alter and arrange the senatorial districts, that each district shall contain, as nearly as practicable, an equal number of free white male inhabitants: Provided, that Washington county, as long as the population shall justify the same, may, according to its numbers, elect more than one senator; and such districts shall then remain unaltered, until the return of another enumeration; and shall, at all times, consist of contiguous territory, and no county shall be divided in the formation of a senatorial district.

33. The ratio of representation in the Senate shall be fifteen hundred free white male inhabitants to each senator, until the senators amount to twenty-five in number; and then they shall be equally apportioned upon the same basis throughout the State, in such ratio as the increased numbers of free white male inhabitants may require, without increasing the senators to a greater number



than twenty-five, until the population of the State amounts to five hundred thousand souls; and when an increase of senators takes place, they shall, from time to time, be divided by lot, and classed as prescribed above.

34. The House of Representatives shall consist of not less than fifty-four nor more than one hundred representatives, to be apportioned among the several counties in this State, according to the number of free white male inhabitants therein, taking five hundred as the ratio, until the number of representatives amount to seventy-five; and when they amount to seventy-five, they shall not be farther increased until the population of the State amounts to five hundred thousand souls: Provided, that each county now organized shall, although its population may not give the existing ratio, always be entitled to one representative.

*Mode of amending the Constitution.*

35. The General Assembly may at any time propose such amendments to this Constitution as two-thirds of each house shall deem expedient, which shall be published in all the newspapers published in this State, three several times, at least twelve months before the next general election; and if, at the first session of the General Assembly, after such general election, two-thirds of each house shall, by yeas and nays, ratify such proposed amendments, they shall be valid to all intents and purposes, as parts of this Constitution: Provided, that such proposed amendments shall be read on three several days in each house, as well when the same are proposed as when they are finally ratified.

**ARTICLE V.—Executive Department.**

SEC. 1. The supreme executive power of this State shall be vested in a chief magistrate, who shall be styled the Governor of the State of Arkansas.

2. The Governor shall be elected by the qualified electors, at the time and places where they shall respectively vote for representatives.

3. The returns of every election for Governor shall be sealed up and transmitted to the Speaker of the House of Representatives, who shall, during the first week of the session, open and publish them, in the presence of both houses of the General Assembly. The person having the highest number of votes shall be Governor; but if two or more shall be equal and highest in votes, one of them shall be chosen Governor by the joint vote of both houses. Contested elections for Governor shall be determined by both houses of the General Assembly, in such manner as shall be prescribed by law.

4. The Governor shall hold his office for the term of four years from the time of his installation, and until his successor shall be duly qualified; but shall not be eligible for more than eight years in any term of twelve years. He shall be at least thirty years of age, a native-born citizen of Arkansas, or a native-born citizen of the United States, or a resident of Arkansas ten years previous to the adoption of the Constitution, if not a native of the United States; and shall have been a resident of the same at least four years next before his election.

5. He shall at stated times receive a compensation for his services, which shall not be increased or diminished during the term for which he shall have been elected: nor shall he receive within that period, any other emolument from the United States, or any one of them, or from any foreign power.

6. He shall be commander-in-chief of the army of this State, and of the militia thereof, except when they shall be called into the service of the United States.

7. He may require information in writing from the officers of the executive department, on any subject relating to the duties of their respective offices.

8. He may, by proclamation, on extraordinary occasions, convene the General Assembly at the seat of government, or at a different place if that shall have become, since their last adjournment, dangerous from an enemy or from contagious diseases. In case of disagreement between the two houses with respect to the time of adjournment, he may adjourn them to such time as he shall think proper, not beyond the day of the next meeting of the General Assembly.

9. He shall, from time to time, give the General Assembly information of the state of the government, and recommend to their consideration, such measures as he may deem expedient.

10. He shall take care that the laws be faithfully executed.

11. In all criminal and penal cases, except in those of treason and impeachment, he shall have power to grant pardons after convictions, and remit fines and forfeitures, under such rules and regulations as shall be prescribed by law. In cases of treason, he shall have power, by and with the advice and consent of the Senate, to grant reprieves and pardons; and he may, in the recess of the Senate, respite the sentence until the end of the next session of the General Assembly.

12. There shall be a seal of this State, which shall be kept by the Governor, and used by him officially; and the present seal of the territory shall be the seal of the State, until otherwise directed by the General Assembly.

13. All commissions shall be in the name and by the authority of the State of Arkansas; be sealed with the seal of the State, signed by the Governor, and attested by the Secretary of State.

14. There shall be a Secretary of State elected by a joint vote of both houses of the General Assembly, who shall continue in office during the term of four years, and until his successor in office be duly qualified. He shall keep a fair register of all the official acts and proceedings of the Governor, and shall, when required, lay the same, and all papers, minutes, and vouchers relative thereto, before the General Assembly; and shall perform such other duties as may be required by law.

15. Vacancies that may happen in offices, the election to which is vested in the General Assembly, shall be filled by the Governor during the recess of the General Assembly, by granting commissions, which shall expire at the end of the next session.

16. Every bill which shall have passed both houses shall be presented to the Governor; if he approve, he shall sign it; but if he shall not approve it, he shall return it, with his objections, to the house in which it shall have originated, who shall enter his objections at large upon their journals and proceed to reconsider it. If, after such reconsideration, a majority of the whole number elected to that house shall agree to pass the bill, it shall be sent with the objections to the other house, by which, likewise, it shall be reconsidered; and, if approved by a majority of the whole number elected to that house, it shall be a law; but in such cases the votes of both houses shall be determined by yeas and nays, and the names of the persons voting for and against the bill shall be entered on the journal of each respectively. If any bill shall not be returned by the Governor within three days, Sundays excepted, after it shall have been presented to him, the same shall be a law in like manner as if he had signed it, unless the General Assembly, by their adjournment, prevent its return; in such cases it shall not be a law.

17. Every order or resolution to which the concurrence of both houses may be necessary, except on questions of adjournment, shall be presented to the Governor, and before it shall take effect, be approved by him, or, being disapproved, shall be repassed by both houses, according to the rules and limitations prescribed in the case of a bill.

18. In case of the impeachment of the Governor, his removal from office, death, refusal to qualify, resignation, or absence from the State, the President of the Senate shall exercise all the authority appertaining to the office of Governor, until another Governor shall have been elected and qualified, or until the Governor absent or impeached, return or be acquitted.

19. If, during the vacancy of the office of Governor, the President of the Senate shall be impeached, removed from office, refuse to qualify, resign, die, or be absent from the State, the Speaker of the House of Representatives shall in like manner administer the Government.

20. The President of the Senate and Speaker of the House of Representatives, during the time they respectively administer the government, shall re-



ceive the same compensation which the Governor would have received, had he been employed in the duties of his office.

21. Whenever the office of Governor shall become vacant, by death, resignation, removal from office, or otherwise, provided, such vacancy shall not happen within eighteen months of the end of the term for which the late Governor shall have been elected, the President of the Senate or Speaker of the House of Representatives, as the case may be, exercising the powers of Governor for the time being, shall immediately cause an election to be held to fill such vacancy, giving, by proclamation, sixty days' previous notice thereof, which election shall be governed by the same rules prescribed for general elections of Governor, as far as applicable. The return shall be made to the Secretary of State, who, in presence of the acting Governor, and the judges of the Supreme Court, or one of them, at least, shall compare them, and, together with said acting Governor, and judges, declare who is elected; and if there be a contested election, it shall be decided by the judges of the the Supreme Court in manner to be prescribed by law.

22. The Governor shall always reside at the seat of government.

23. No person shall hold the office of Governor, and any other office or commission, civil or military, either in this State, or under any State, or the United States, or any other power, at one and the same time.

24. That there shall be elected, by the joint vote of both houses of the General Assembly, an auditor and treasurer for this State, who shall hold their offices for the term of two years, and until their respective successors are elected and qualified, unless sooner removed, and shall keep their respective offices at the seat of government, and perform such duties as shall be prescribed by law; and, in case of vacancy by death, resignation, or otherwise, such vacancy shall be filled by the Governor, as in other cases.

#### *Militia.*

25. The militia of this State shall be divided into convenient divisions, brigades, regiments, and companies, and officers of corresponding titles and rank elected to command them, conforming, as nearly as practicable, to the general regulations of the army of the United States.

26. Major-generals shall be elected by the brigadier-generals and field officers of their respective divisions; brigadier-generals shall be elected by the field officers and commissioned company officers of their respective brigades; field officers shall be elected by the officers and privates of their respective regiments; and captains and subaltern officers shall be elected by those subject to military duty in their respective companies.

27. The Governor shall appoint the adjutant-general and other members of his staff; and major-generals, brigadier-generals and commandants of regiments, shall respectively appoint their own staff; and all commissioned officers may continue in office during good behavior; and staff officers during the same time, subject to be removed by the superior officers from whom they respectively derive their appointment.

#### ARTICLE VI.—*Judicial Department.*

SEC. 1. The judicial power of this State shall be vested in one Supreme Court, in circuit courts, in county courts, and in justices of the peace. The General Assembly may also vest such jurisdiction as may be deemed necessary in corporation courts, and, when they deem it expedient, may establish courts of chancery.

2. The Supreme Court shall be composed of three judges, one of whom shall be styled Chief-Justice any two of whom shall constitute a quorum, and the concurrence of two of said judges shall, in every case, be necessary to a decision. The Supreme Court, except in cases otherwise directed by this Constitution, shall have appellate jurisdiction only, which shall be co-extensive with the State, under such restrictions and regulations as may, from time to time, be prescribed by law. It shall have a general superintending control over al.

inferior and other courts of law and equity. It shall have power to issue writs of error and supersedeas, certiorari, and habeas corpus, mandamus, and quo warranto, and other remedial writs, and to hear and determine the same. Said judges shall be conservators of the peace throughout the State, and shall severally have power to issue any of the aforesaid writs.

3. The circuit courts shall have original jurisdiction over all criminal cases, which shall not be otherwise provided for by law; and exclusive original jurisdiction of all crimes amounting to felony at common law; and original jurisdiction of all civil cases which shall not be cognizable before justices of the peace, until otherwise directed by the General Assembly; and original jurisdiction in all matters of contracts, where the sum in controversy is over one hundred dollars. It shall hold its terms in such place in each county as may be by law directed.

4. The State shall be divided into convenient circuits, each to consist of not less than five, nor more than seven counties, contiguous to each other, for each of which a judge shall be elected; who, during his continuance in office, shall reside and be a conservator of the peace within the circuit for which he shall have been elected.

5. The circuit courts shall exercise a superintending control over the county courts, and over justices of the peace, in each county in their respective circuits, and shall have power to issue all the necessary writs to carry into effect their general and specific powers.

6. Until the General Assembly shall deem it expedient to establish courts of chancery, the circuit court shall have jurisdiction in matters of equity, subject to appeal to the Supreme Court, in such manner as may be prescribed by law.

7. The General Assembly shall, by joint vote of both houses, elect the judges of the Supreme and circuit courts, a majority of the whole number in joint vote being necessary to a choice. The judges of the Supreme Court shall be at least thirty years of age. They shall hold their offices during the term of eight years from the date of their commissions. Immediately after such election, by the first General Assembly, the President of the Senate and Speaker of the House of Representatives shall proceed, by lot, to divide the judges into three classes. The commission of the first class shall expire at the end of four years; of the second class at the end of six years; and of the third class at the end of eight years; so that one-third of the whole number shall be chosen every four, six, and eight years. The judges of the circuit court shall be at least twenty-five years of age, and shall be elected for the term of four years from the date of their commission. The Supreme Court shall appoint its own clerks for the term of four years. The qualified voters of each county shall elect a clerk of the circuit court for their respective counties, who shall hold his office for the term of two years; and courts of chancery, if any be established, shall appoint their own clerks.

8. The judges of the Supreme and circuit courts shall, at stated times, receive a compensation for their services, to be ascertained by law, which shall not be diminished during the term for which they are elected. They shall not be allowed any fees or perquisites of office, nor hold any other office of trust or profit under this State or the United States. The State attorneys and clerks of the Supreme and circuit courts, and courts of chancery, if any such be established, shall receive for their services such salaries, fees, and perquisites of office, as shall be from time to time fixed by law.

9. There shall be established, in each county in the State, a court to be holden by the justices of the peace, and called the county court, which shall have jurisdiction in all matters relating to county taxes, disbursements of money for county purposes, and in every other case that may be necessary to the internal improvement and local concerns of the respective counties.

10. There shall be elected, by the justices of the peace of the respective counties, a presiding judge of the county court, to be commissioned by the Governor, and hold his office for the term of two years, and until his successor is elected and qualified. He shall, in addition to the duties that may be required of him by law, as a presiding judge of the county court, be a judge of probate, and



have such jurisdiction in matters relative to the estates of deceased persons, executors, administrators, and guardians, as may be prescribed by law, until otherwise directed by the General Assembly.

11. The presiding judge of the county court, and justices of the peace, shall receive for their services such compensation and fees as the General Assembly may from time to time by law direct.

12. No judge shall preside on the trial of any case in the event of which he may be interested, or where either of the parties shall be connected with him by affinity or consanguinity, within such degrees as may be prescribed by law, or in which he may have been of counsel, or have presided in any inferior court, except by consent of all the parties. In case all or any of the judges of the Supreme Court shall be thus disqualified from presiding on any cause or causes, the court or judges thereof shall certify the same to the Governor of the State, and he shall immediately commission specially the requisite number of men of law-knowledge for the trial and determination thereof. The same course shall be pursued in the circuit and other inferior courts, as prescribed in this section for cases in the Supreme Court. Judges of the circuit courts may temporarily exchange circuits, or hold courts for each other, under such regulations as may be pointed out by law. Judges shall not charge jurors with respect to matters of fact; but may state the testimony and declare the law.

13. The General Assembly shall, by a joint vote of both houses, elect an attorney for the State, for each circuit established by law, who shall continue in office two years, and reside within the circuit for which he was elected, at the time of and during his continuance in office. In all cases where an attorney for the State of any circuit fails to attend and prosecute according to law, the courts shall have power to appoint an attorney *pro tempore*. The attorney for the court in which the Supreme Court may hold its term, shall attend the Supreme Court, and prosecute for the State.

14. All writs and other process shall run in the name of "The State of Arkansas," and bear test and be signed by the clerks of the respective courts from which they issue. Indictments shall conclude, "against the peace and dignity of the State of Arkansas."

15. The qualified voters residing in each township shall elect the justices of the peace for their respective townships. For every fifty voters there may be elected one justice of the peace, provided, that each township, however small, shall have two justices of the peace. Justices of the peace shall be elected for the term of two years, and shall be commissioned by the Governor, and reside in the townships for which they were elected during their continuance in office. They shall have, individually, or two or more of them jointly, exclusive original jurisdiction in all matters of contract, except in actions of covenant, where the sum in controversy is of one hundred dollars and under. Justices shall, in no case, have jurisdiction to try and determine any criminal case or penal offence against the State, but may sit as examining courts, and commit, discharge, or recognize, to the court having jurisdiction, for further trial, of offenders against the peace. For the foregoing purposes they shall have power to issue all necessary process. They shall also have power to bind to keep the peace, or for good behavior.

16. The qualified voters of each township shall elect one constable for the term of two years, who shall, during his continuance in office, reside in the township for which he was elected. Incorporated townships may have a separate constable, and a separate magistracy.

17. The qualified voters of each county shall elect one sheriff, one coroner, one treasurer, and one county surveyor, for the term of two years. They shall be commissioned by the Governor, reside in their respective counties during their continuance in office, and be disqualified for the office a second term, if it should appear that they, or either of them, are in default for any monies collected by virtue of the respective offices.

ARTICLE IX.—*General Provisions.—Education.*

SEC. 1. Knowledge and learning, generally diffused through a community, being essential to the preservation of a free government, and diffusing the opportunities and advantages of education through the various parts of the State being highly conducive to this end, it shall be the duty of the General Assembly to provide by law for the improvement of such lands as are or hereafter may be granted by the United States to this State for the use of schools, and to apply any funds which may be raised from such land, or from any other source, to the accomplishment of the object for which they are or may be intended. The General Assembly shall from time to time pass such laws as shall be calculated to encourage intellectual, scientific, and agricultural improvements, by allowing rewards and immunities for the promotion and improvement of arts, science, commerce, manufactures, and natural history; and countenance and encourage the principles of humanity, industry, and morality.

*Emancipation of Slaves.*

SEC. 1. The General Assembly shall have no power to pass laws for the emancipation of slaves, without the consent of the owners. They shall have no power to prevent emigrants to this State from bringing with them such persons as are deemed slaves by the laws of any one of the United States. They shall have power to pass laws to permit the owners of slaves to emancipate them, saving the rights of creditors, and preventing them from becoming a public charge. They shall have power to prevent slaves from being brought to this State as merchandize, and also to oblige the owners of slaves to treat them with humanity.

2. Treason against the State shall consist only in levying war against it, or adhering to its enemies, giving them aid and comfort. No person shall be convicted of treason unless on the testimony of two witnesses to the same overt act, or his own confession in open court.

3. No person who denies the being of a God shall hold any office in the civil department of this State, nor be allowed his oath in any court.

4. No money shall be drawn from the treasury but in consequence of an appropriation by law, nor shall any appropriation of money for the support of an army be made for a longer term than two years; and a regular statement and account of the receipts and expenditures of all public moneys shall be published with the promulgation of the laws.

5. Absence on business of this State, or of the United States, or on a visit of necessary private business, shall not cause a forfeiture of a residence once obtained.

6. No lottery shall be authorized by this State, nor shall the sale of lottery tickets be allowed.

7. Internal improvements shall be encouraged by the government of this State, and it shall be the duty of the General Assembly, as soon as may be, to make provision by law for ascertaining the proper objects of improvements in relation to roads, canals, and navigable waters; and it shall also be their duty to provide by law for an equal, systematic, and economical application of the fund which may be appropriated to these objects.

8. Returns for all elections for officers who are to be commissioned by the Governor, and for members of the General Assembly, shall be made to the Secretary of State.

9. Within five years after the adoption of this Constitution, the laws, civil, and criminal, shall be revised, digested, and arranged, and promulgated in such manner as the General Assembly shall direct, and a like revision, digest, and promulgation shall be made within every subsequent period of ten years.

10. In the event of the annexation of any territory to this State, by a cession from the United States, laws may be passed extending to the inhabitants of such territory all the rights and privileges which may be required by the terms of such cession, anything in this Constitution to the contrary notwithstanding



11. The person of a debtor, except where there is strong presumption of fraud, shall neither be imprisoned nor continued in prison after delivering up his estate for the benefit of his creditors, in such manner as may be prescribed by law.

*Revenue.*

SEC. 1. All revenue shall be raised by taxation, to be fixed by law.

2. All property subject to taxation shall be taxed according to its value, that value to be ascertained in such manner as the General Assembly shall direct, making the same equal and uniform throughout the State. No one species of property from which a tax may be collected, shall be taxed higher than another species of property of equal value: Provided, the General Assembly shall have power to tax merchants, hawkers, pedlers, and privileges, in such manner as may from time to time be prescribed by law: and provided further, that no other or greater amounts of revenue shall at any time be levied, than required for the necessary expenses of government, unless by a concurrence of two-thirds of both houses of the General Assembly.

3. No poll tax shall be assessed for other than county purposes.

4. No other or greater tax shall be levied on the productions or labor of the country than may be required for expenses of inspection.

*Establishment of Banks.*

SEC. 1. The General Assembly may incorporate one State Bank, with such amount of capital as may be deemed necessary, and with such number of branches as may be required for public convenience, which shall become the repository of the funds belonging to, or under the control of, the State; and shall be required to loan them out throughout the State, and in each county, in proportion to representation; and they shall further have power to incorporate one other banking institution, calculated to aid and promote the great agricultural interests of the country; and the faith and credit of the State may be pledged to raise the funds necessary to carry into operation the two banks herein specified: Provided, such security can be given by the individual stockholders as will guaranty the State against loss or injury.

## AMENDMENTS TO THE CONSTITUTION OF ARKANSAS.

*Proposed by the General Assembly, begun and held at the City of Little Rock, in the State of Arkansas, on the first Monday of November, one thousand eight hundred and forty-four, and ratified November 17. 1846.*

ART. 1. No bank or banking institution shall be hereafter incorporated, or established in this State.

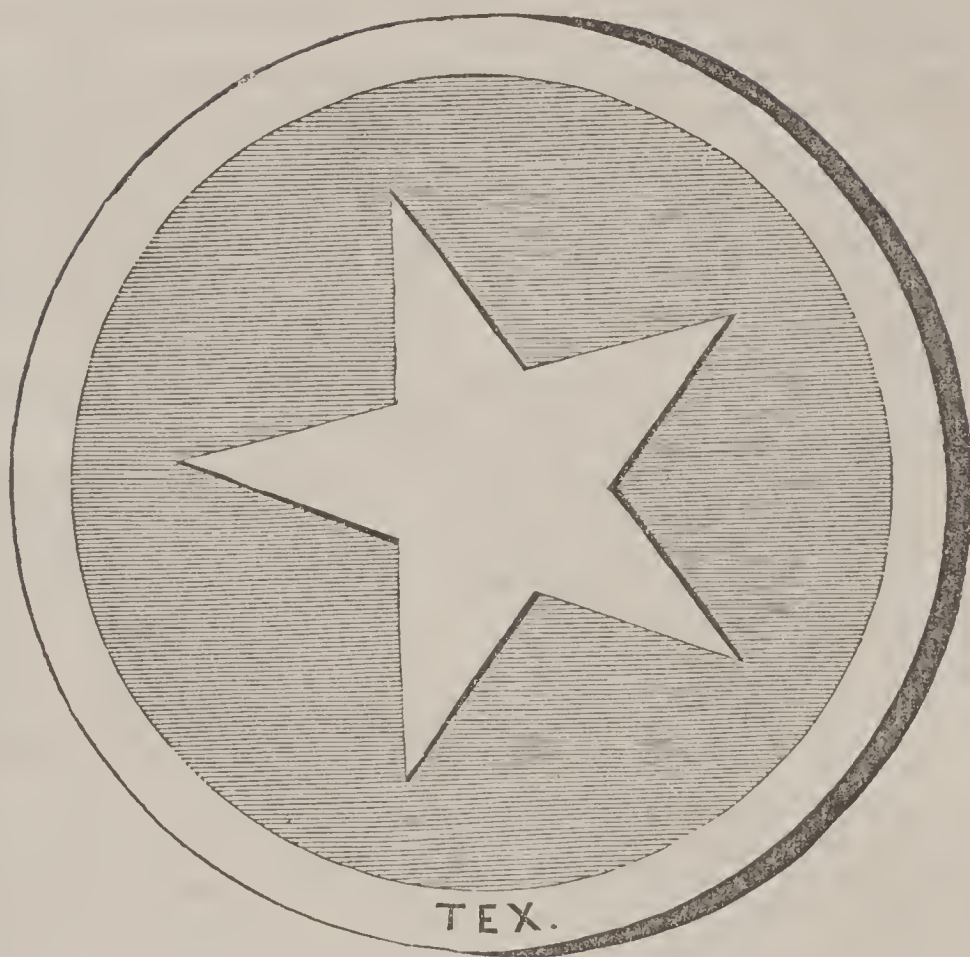
2. The General Assembly shall have power to compel the Judges of the Circuit Courts to interchange circuits either temporarily or permanently, under such regulations as may be provided by law.

3. The General Assembly shall have power to confer such jurisdiction, as it may from time to time deem proper, on Justices of the Peace in all matters of contracts, covenants, and in actions for the recovery of fines and forfeitures, when the amount claimed does not exceed one hundred dollars, and in actions and prosecutions for assault and battery, and other penal offences, less than felony, which may be punishable by fine only.

4. Judges of the Supreme and Circuit Courts, Clerks of the Supreme and Circuit Courts, Attorneys for the State, Sheriffs, Coroners, County Treasurers, Justices of the Peace, Constables, and all other officers, whose term is fixed by the Constitution to a specific number of years, shall hold their respective offices for the term now specified, and until their successors are elected and qualified.

*Ratified Nov. 17, 1846.*

## TEXAS.



THE first settlement made in Texas was in 1792. It was a part of Mexico until 1835, when it declared itself independent. The Mexicans attempted to recover the territory in 1836. The force consisted of 1600 men, under Santa Anna. A severe battle ensued, in which more than 600 of the Mexicans were killed and 300 wounded, and Santa Anna and his men were taken prisoners. The Texan force consisted of only about 800 men, under Gen. S. Houston; their loss was only 6 killed and about 30 wounded. Texas remained a separate government until 1845, when, by mutual agreement, it was annexed to the United States, and thus became the twenty-eighth State in the union.

Area, 324,018 sq. m. Pop. in 1850, 187,403. Slaves, 53,346 and 926, Free blacks.

## CONSTITUTION.

WE, the people of the republic of Texas, acknowledging with gratitude the grace and beneficence of God in permitting us to make a choice of our form of government, do, in accordance with the provisions of the joint resolution for annexing Texas to the United States, approved March first, one thousand eight hundred and forty-five, ordain and establish this Constitution.

### ARTICLE I.—*Bill of Rights.*

• *That the general, great, and essential principles of liberty and free government may be recognized and established, we declare that—*

SEC. 1. All political power is inherent in the people, and all free governments are founded on their authority, and instituted for their benefit; and they have at all times the inalienable right to alter, reform, or abolish their form of government, in such manner as they may think expedient.



2. All freemen, when they form a social compact, have equal rights; and no man, or set of men, is entitled to exclusive, separate, public emoluments or privileges, but in consideration of public services.

3. No religious test shall ever be required as a qualification to any office or public trust in this State.

4. All men have a natural and indefeasible right to worship God according to the dictates of their own consciences; no man shall be compelled to attend, erect, or support any place of worship, or to maintain any ministry against his consent; no human authority ought, in any case whatever, to control or interfere with the rights of conscience in matters of religion, and no preference shall ever be given by law to any religious societies or modes of worship. But it shall be the duty of the Legislature to pass such laws as shall be necessary to protect every religious denomination in the peaceable enjoyment of their own mode of public worship.

5. Every citizen shall be at liberty to speak, write, or publish his opinions on any subject, being responsible for the abuse of that privilege; and no law shall ever be passed curtailing the liberty of speech or of the press.

6. In prosecutions for the publication of papers investigating the official conduct of officers, or men in a public capacity, or where the matter published is proper for public information, the truth thereof may be given in evidence. And in all indictments for libels, the jury shall have a right to determine the law and the facts, under the direction of the court, as in other cases.

7. The people shall be secure in their persons, houses, papers, and possessions, from all unreasonable seizures or searches; and no warrant to search any place, or to seize any person or thing, shall issue, without describing them as near as may be, nor without probable cause, supported by oath or affirmation.

8. In all criminal prosecutions, the accused shall have a speedy public trial, by an impartial jury; he shall not be compelled to give evidence against himself; he shall have the right of being heard by himself or counsel or both; shall be confronted with the witnesses against him, and shall have compulsory process for obtaining witnesses in his favor; and no person shall be holden to answer for any criminal charge, but on indictment or information, except in cases arising in the land or naval forces, or offences against the laws regulating the militia.

9. All prisoners shall be bailable by sufficient sureties, unless for capital offences, when the proof is evident or the presumption great; but this provision shall not be so construed as to prohibit bail after indictment found, upon an examination of the evidence by a judge of the Supreme or district court, upon the return of the writ of habeas corpus, returnable in the county where the offence is committed.

10. The privilege of the writ of habeas corpus shall not be suspended, except when, in case of rebellion or invasion the public safety may require it.

11. Excessive bail shall not be required, nor excessive fines imposed, nor cruel or unusual punishment inflicted. All courts shall be open; and every person, for an injury done him in his lands, goods, person, or reputation, shall have remedy by due course of law.

12. No person, for the same offence, shall be twice put in jeopardy of life or limb; nor shall a person be again put upon trial for the same offence after a verdict of not guilty; and the right of trial by jury shall remain inviolate.

13. Every citizen shall have the right to keep and bear arms in the lawful defense of himself and the State.

14. No bill of attainder, ex post facto law, retro-active law, or any law impairing the obligation of contracts, shall be made; and no person's property shall be taken or applied to public use, without adequate compensation being made, unless by the consent of such person.

15. No person shall ever be imprisoned for debt.

16. No citizen of this State shall be deprived of life, liberty, property, or privileges, outlawed, exiled, or in any manner disfranchised, except by due course of the law of the land.

17. The military shall at all times be subordinate to the civil authority.

18. Perpetuities and monopolies are contrary to the genius of a free government, and shall never be allowed; nor shall the law of primogeniture or entailments ever be in force in this State.

19. The citizens shall have the right, in a peaceable manner, to assemble together for their common good, and to apply to those invested with the powers of government for redress of grievances, or other purposes, by petition, address, or remonstrance.

20. No power of suspending laws in this State shall be exercised, except by the Legislature or its authority.

21. To guard against transgressions of the high powers herein delegated, we declare that everything in this "bill of rights" is excepted out of the general powers of Government, and shall forever remain inviolate; and all laws contrary thereto, or to the following provisions, shall be void.

## ARTICLE II.

SEC. 1. The powers of the government of the State of Texas shall be divided into three distinct departments, and each of them be confined to a separate body of magistracy, to wit: those which are legislative, to one; those which are executive, to another; and those which are judicial to another; and no person, or collection of persons, being of one of those departments, shall exercise any power properly attached to either of the others, except in the instances herein expressly permitted.

## ARTICLE III.—*Legislative Department.*

SEC. 1. Every free male person who shall have attained the age of twenty-one years, and who shall be a citizen of the United States, or who is, at the time of the adoption of this Constitution by the Congress of the United States, a citizen of the republic of Texas, and shall have resided in this State one year next preceding an election, and the last six months within the district, county, city, or town, in which he offers to vote (Indians not taxed, Africans and descendants of Africans, excepted), shall be deemed a qualified elector; and should such qualified elector happen to be in any other county situated in the district in which he resides at the time of an election, he shall be permitted to vote for any district officer: *provided*, that the qualified electors shall be permitted to vote anywhere in the State for State officers: *and provided, further*, that no soldier, seaman, or marine, in the army or navy of the United States, shall be entitled to vote at any election created by this Constitution.

2. All free male persons over the age of twenty-one years (Indians not taxed, Africans and descendants of Africans, excepted), who shall have resided six months in Texas, immediately preceding the acceptance of this Constitution by the Congress of the United States, shall be deemed qualified electors.

3. Electors in all cases shall be privileged from arrest during their attendance at elections, and in going to and returning from the same, except in cases of treason, felony, or breach of the peace.

4. The legislative powers of this State shall be vested in two distinct branches; the one to be styled the Senate, and the other the House of Representatives, and both together the "Legislature of the State of Texas." The style of all laws shall be, "Be it enacted by the Legislature of the State of Texas."

5. The members of the House of Representatives shall be chosen by the qualified electors, and their term of office shall be two years from the day of the general election; and the sessions of the Legislature shall be biennial, at such times as shall be prescribed by law.

6. No person shall be a representative, unless he be a citizen of the United States, or at the time of the adoption of this Constitution a citizen of the republic of Texas, and shall have been an inhabitant of this State two years next preceding his election, and the last year thereof a citizen of the county, city, or town for which he shall be chosen, and shall have attained the age of twenty-one years at the time of his election.

7. All elections by the people shall be held at such time and places, in the



several counties, cities, or towns, as are now, or may hereafter be, designated by law.

8. The senators shall be chosen by the qualified electors for the term of four years; and shall be divided by lot into two classes, as nearly equal as can be. The seats of senators of the first class shall be vacated at the expiration of the first two years, and of the second class at the expiration of four years; so that one-half thereof shall be chosen biennially thereafter.

9. Such mode of classifying new additional senators shall be observed, as will as nearly as possible preserve an equality of number in each class.

10. When a senatorial district shall be composed of two or more counties, it shall not be separated by any county belonging to another district.

11. No person shall be a senator unless he be a citizen of the United States, or at the time of the acceptance of this Constitution by the Congress of the United States, a citizen of the republic of Texas; and shall have been an inhabitant of this State three years next preceding the election, and the last year thereof a resident of the district for which he shall be chosen, and have attained the age of thirty years.

12. The House of Representatives, when assembled, shall choose a Speaker and its other officers; and the Senate shall choose a President for the time being and its other officers. Each house shall judge of the qualifications and elections of its own members; but contested elections shall be determined in such manner as shall be directed by law. Two-thirds of each house shall constitute a quorum to do business; but a smaller number may adjourn from day to day, and compel the attendance of absent members, in such manner, and under such penalties, as each house may provide.

13. Each house may determine the rules of its own proceedings, punish members for disorderly conduct, and, with the consent of two-thirds, expel a member, but not a second time for the same offence.

14. Each house shall keep a journal of its own proceedings, and publish the same; and the yeas and nays of the members of either house, on any question, shall at the desire of any three members present be entered on the journals.

15. When vacancies happen in either house, the Governor, or the person exercising the power of the Governor, shall issue writs of election to fill such vacancy.

16. Senators and representatives shall in all cases, except in treason, felony, or breach of the peace, be privileged from arrest during the session of the Legislature, and in going to and returning from the same, allowing one day for every twenty miles such member may reside from the place at which the Legislature is convened.

17. Each house may punish by imprisonment during the session, any person not a member, for disrespectful or disorderly conduct, in its presence; or for obstructing any of its proceedings: provided such imprisonment shall not at any one time exceed 48 hours.

18. The doors of each house shall be kept open.

19. Neither house shall, without the consent of the other, adjourn for more than three days; nor to any other place than that in which they may be sitting, without the concurrence of both houses.

20. Bills may originate in either house, and be amended, altered, or rejected by the other; but no bill shall have the force of a law until, on three several days, it be read in each house, and free discussion be allowed thereon, unless, in case of great emergency, four-fifths of the house in which the bill shall be pending may deem it expedient to dispense with this rule; and every bill having passed both houses, shall be signed by the Speaker and President of their respective houses.

21. All bills for raising revenue shall originate in the House of Representatives; but the Senate may amend or reject them, as other bills.

22. After a bill or resolution has been rejected by either branch of the Legislature, no bill or resolution containing the same substance shall be passed into a law during the same session.

23. Each member of the Legislature shall receive from the public treasury a

compensation for his services, which may be increased or diminished by law; but no increase of compensation shall take effect during the session at which such increase shall be made.

24. No senator or representative shall, during the term for which he may be elected, be eligible to any civil office of profit under this State, which shall have been created, or the emoluments of which may have been increased, during the term; and no member of either house of the Legislature shall, during the term for which he is elected, be eligible to any office or place, the appointment to which may be made, in whole or in part, by either branch of the Legislature; nor shall the members thereof be capable of voting for a member of their own body, for any office whatever, except it be in such cases as are herein provided. The President for the time being of the Senate, and Speaker of the House of Representatives, shall be elected from their respective bodies.

25. No judge of any court of law or equity, secretary of state, attorney-general, clerk of any court of record, sheriff, or collector, or any person holding a lucrative office under the United States, or this State, or any foreign government, shall be eligible to the Legislature, nor shall at the same time hold or exercise any two offices, agencies, or appointments of trust or profit under this State: provided, that offices of the militia, to which there is attached no annual salary, or the office of justice of the peace, shall not be deemed lucrative.

26. No person, who at any time may have been a collector of taxes, or who may have been otherwise entrusted with public money, shall be eligible to the Legislature, or to any office of profit or trust under the State government, until he shall have obtained a discharge for the amount of such collections, and for all public moneys with which he may have been entrusted.

27. Ministers of the gospel being by their profession dedicated to God and the care of souls, ought not to be diverted from the great duties of their functions; therefore no minister of the gospel, or priest of any denomination whatever, shall be eligible to the Legislature.

28. Elections for senators and representatives shall be general throughout the State, and shall be regulated by law.

29. The Legislature shall, at their first meeting, and in the year one thousand eight hundred and forty-eight, and fifty, and every eight years thereafter, cause an enumeration to be made of all the free inhabitants (Indians not taxed, Africans and descendants of Africans, excepted) of the State, designating particularly the number of qualified electors; and the whole number of representatives shall, at the several periods of making such enumeration, be fixed by the Legislature, and apportioned among the several counties, cities or towns, according to the number of free population in each; and shall not be less than forty-five, nor more than ninety.

30. Until after the first enumeration and apportionment under this Constitution, the following shall be the apportionment of representatives amongst the several counties, viz.:

The county of Montgomery shall elect four representatives; the counties of Red River, Harrison, Nacogdoches, Harris, and Washington, shall elect three representatives each; the counties of Fannin, Lamar, Bowie, Shelby, San Augustine, Rusk, Houston, Sabine, Liberty, Robertson, Galveston, Brazoria, Fayette, Colorado, Austin, Gonzales, and Bexar, two representatives each; the counties of Jefferson, Jasper, Brazos, Milan, Bastrop, Travis, Matagorda, Jackson, Fort Bend, Victoria, Refugio, Goliad, and San Patricio, one representative each.

31. The whole number of senators shall, at the next session after the several periods of making the enumeration, be fixed by the Legislature, and apportioned among the several districts to be established by law, according to the number of qualified electors, and shall never be less than nineteen, nor more than thirty-three.

32. Until the first enumeration, as provided for by this Constitution, the senatorial districts shall be as follows, to wit: The counties of Fannin and Lamar shall constitute the first district, and elect one senator; the counties of Red River and Bowie, the second district, and elect one senator; the counties of



Fannin, Lamar, Red River, and Bowie, conjointly, shall elect one senator; the county of Harrison, the third district, shall elect one senator; the counties of Nacogdoches, Rusk, and Houston, the fourth district, shall elect two senators; the counties of San Augustine and Shelby, the fifth district, shall elect one senator; the counties of Sabine and Jasper, the sixth district, shall elect one senator; the counties of Liberty and Jefferson, the seventh district, shall elect one senator; the counties of Robertson and Brazos, the eighth district, shall elect one senator; the county of Montgomery, the ninth district, shall elect one senator; the county of Harris, the tenth district, shall elect one senator; the county of Galveston, the eleventh district, shall elect one senator; the counties of Brazoria and Matagorda, the twelfth district, shall elect one senator; the counties of Austin and Fort Bend, the thirteenth district, shall elect one senator; the counties of Colorado and Fayette, the fourteenth district, shall elect one senator; the counties of Bastrop and Travis, the fifteenth district, shall elect one senator; the counties of Washington and Milan, the sixteenth district, shall elect one senator; the counties of Victoria, Gonzales, and Jackson, the seventeenth district, shall elect one senator; the county of Bexar, the eighteenth district, shall elect one senator; and the counties of Goliad, Refugio, and San Patricio, the nineteenth district, shall elect one senator.

33. The first session of the Legislature, after the adoption of the Constitution by the Congress of the United States, shall be held at the city of Austin, the present seat of government, and thereafter, until the year one thousand eight hundred and fifty; after which period, the seat of government shall be permanently located by the people.

34. The members of the Legislature shall at their first session receive from the treasury of the State, as their compensation, three dollars for each day they shall be in attendance on, and three dollars for every twenty-five miles traveling to and from the place of convening the Legislature.

35. In order to settle permanently the seat of government, an election shall be holden throughout the State, at the usual places of holding elections, on the first Monday in March, one thousand eight hundred and fifty—which shall be conducted according to law—at which time the people shall vote for such place as they may see proper for the seat of government. The returns of said election to be transmitted to the Governor by the first Monday in June: if either place voted for shall have a majority of the whole number of votes cast, then the same shall be the permanent seat of government until the year one thousand eight hundred and seventy, unless the State shall sooner be divided. But in case neither place voted for shall have the majority of the whole number of votes given in, then the Governor shall issue his proclamation for an election to be holden in the same manner, on the first Monday in October, one thousand eight hundred and fifty, between the two places having the highest number of votes at the first election. The election shall be conducted in the same manner as at the first, and the returns made to the Governor; and the place having the highest number of votes shall be the seat of government for the time herein provided.

#### ARTICLE IV.—*Judicial Department.*

SEC. 1. The judicial power of this State shall be vested in one Supreme Court, in district courts, and in such inferior courts as the Legislature may from time to time ordain and establish; and such jurisdiction may be vested in corporation courts as may be deemed necessary, and be directed by law.

2. The Supreme Court shall consist of a Chief-Justice and two associates, any two of whom shall form a quorum.

3. The Supreme Court shall have appellate jurisdiction only, which shall be co-extensive with the limits of the State; but, in criminal cases, and in appeals from interlocutory judgments, with such exceptions and under such regulations as the Legislature shall make; and the Supreme Court and judges thereof shall have power to issue the writ of *habeas corpus*, and, under such regulations as may be prescribed by law, may issue writs of *mandamus*, and such other writs as shall be necessary to enforce its own jurisdiction; and also

compel a judge of the district court to proceed to trial and judgment in a cause; and the Supreme Court shall hold its sessions once every year, between the months of October and June, inclusive, at not more than three places in the State.

4. The Supreme Court shall appoint its own clerks, who shall hold their offices for four years, and be subject to removal by the said Court for neglect of duty, misdemeanor in office, and such other causes as may be prescribed by law.

5. The Governor shall nominate, and, by and with the advice and consent of two-thirds of the Senate, shall appoint the judges of the Supreme and district courts, and they shall hold their offices for six years.

6. The State shall be divided into convenient judicial districts. For each district there shall be appointed a judge, who shall reside in the same, and hold the courts at one place in each county, and at least twice in each year, in such manner as may be prescribed by law.

7. The judges of the Supreme Court shall receive a salary not less than two thousand dollars annually, and the judges of the district court a salary not less than seventeen hundred and fifty dollars annually; and the salaries of the judges shall not be increased or diminished during their continuance in office.

8. The judges of the Supreme and district courts shall be removed by the Governor, on the address of two-thirds of each house of the Legislature, for wilful neglect of duty, or other reasonable cause which shall not be sufficient ground for impeachment; provided, however, that the cause or causes for which such removal shall be required, shall be stated at length in such address, and entered on the journals of each house: and provided, further, that the cause or causes shall be notified to the judge so intended to be removed; and he shall be admitted to a hearing in his own defense, before a vote for any such address shall pass; and, in all such cases, the vote shall be taken by yeas and nays, and entered on the journals of each house respectively.

9. All judges of the Supreme and district courts shall, by virtue of their offices, be conservators of the peace throughout the State. The style of all writs and processes shall be, "The State of Texas." All prosecutions shall be carried on in the name and by the authority of the "State of Texas," and conclude, "against the peace and dignity of the State."

10. The district court shall have original jurisdiction of all criminal cases, of all suits in behalf of the State to recover penalties, forfeitures, and escheats, and of all cases of divorce, and of all suits, complaints, and pleas whatever, without regard to any distinction between law and equity, when the matter in controversy shall be valued at, or amount to, one hundred dollars, exclusive of interest; and the said courts, or the judges thereof, shall have power to issue all writs necessary to enforce their own jurisdiction, and give them a general superintendence and control over inferior jurisdictions.

And in the trial of all criminal cases, the jury trying the same shall fine and assess the amount of punishment to be inflicted, or fine imposed, except in capital cases, and where the punishment or fine imposed shall be specifically imposed by law.

11. There shall be a clerk of the district court for each county, who shall be elected by the qualified voters for members of the Legislature, and who shall hold his office for four years, subject to removal by information, or by presentment of a grand jury, and conviction of a petit jury. In case of vacancy, the judge of the district shall have the power to appoint a clerk until a regular election can be held.

12. The Governor shall nominate, and, by and with the advice and consent of two-thirds of the Senate, appoint an Attorney-General, who shall hold his office for two years; and there shall be elected, by joint vote of both houses of the Legislature, a district-attorney for each district, who shall hold his office for two years; and the duties, salaries, and perquisites of the Attorney-General and district-attorneys, shall be prescribed by law.

13. There shall be appointed for each county a convenient number of justices of the peace, one sheriff, one coroner, and a sufficient number of constables,



who shall hold their offices for two years, to be elected by the qualified voters of the district or county, as the Legislature may direct. Justices of the peace, sheriff, and coroner, shall be commissioned by the Governor. The sheriff shall not be eligible more than four years in every six.

14. No judge shall sit in any case wherein he may be interested, or where either of the parties may be connected with him by affinity or consanguinity, within such degrees as may be prescribed by law, or where he shall have been of counsel in the cause. When the Supreme Court, or any two of its members, shall be thus disqualified to hear and determine any cause or causes in said court, or when no judgment can be rendered in any case or cases in said court, by reason of the equal division of opinion of said judges, the same shall be certified to the Governor of the State, who shall immediately commission the requisite number of persons learned in the law, for the trial and determination of said case or cases. When the judges of the district court are thus disqualified, the parties may, by consent, appoint a proper person to try the said case; and the judges of the said courts may exchange districts, or hold courts for each other, when they may deem it expedient, and shall do so when directed by law. The disqualifications of judges of inferior tribunals shall be remedied as may hereafter be by law prescribed.

15. Inferior tribunals shall be established in each county for appointing guardians; granting letters testamentary and of administration; for settling the accounts of executors, administrators, and guardians, and for the transaction of business appertaining to estates; and the district courts shall have original and appellate jurisdiction and general control over the said inferior tribunals, and original jurisdiction and control over executors, administrators, guardians, and minors, under such regulation as may be prescribed by law.

16. In the trial of all causes in equity in the district court, the plaintiff or defendant shall, upon application made in open court, have the right of trial by jury, to be governed by the rules and regulations prescribed in trials at law.

17. Justices of the peace shall have such civil and criminal jurisdiction as shall be provided for by law.

18. In all causes arising out of a contract, before any inferior judicial tribunal, when the amount in controversy shall exceed ten dollars, the plaintiff or defendant shall, upon application to the presiding officer, have the right of trial by jury.

19. In all cases where justices of the peace or other judicial officers of inferior tribunals shall have jurisdiction in the trial of causes where the penalty for the violation of a law is fine or imprisonment (except in case of contempt), the accused shall have the right of trial by jury.

#### ARTICLE V.—*Executive Department.*

SEC. 1. The supreme executive power of this State shall be vested in a chief magistrate, who shall be styled the Governor of the State of Texas.

2. The Governor shall be elected by the qualified electors of the State at the time and places of elections for members of the Legislature.

3. The returns of every election for Governor, until otherwise provided by law, shall be made out, sealed up, and transmitted to the seat of government, and directed to the Speaker of the House of Representatives, who shall, during the first week of the session of the Legislature thereafter, open and publish them in the presence of both houses of the Legislature; the person having the highest number of votes, and being constitutionally eligible, shall be declared by the Speaker, under the direction of the Legislature, to be Governor; but if two or more persons shall have the highest and an equal number of votes, one of them shall be immediately chosen Governor by joint vote of both houses of the Legislature. Contested elections for Governor shall be determined by both houses of the Legislature.

4. The Governor shall hold his office for the term of two years from the regular time of installation, and until his successor shall be duly qualified, but shall not be eligible for more than four years in any term of six years; he shall be at least thirty years of age, shall be a citizen of the United States, or a citizen

of the State of Texas, at the time of the adoption of this Constitution, and shall have resided in the same three years immediately preceding his election.

5. He shall, at stated times, receive a compensation for his services, which shall not be increased or diminished during the term for which he shall have been elected. The first Governor shall receive an annual salary of two thousand dollars, and no more.

6. The Governor shall be commander-in-chief of the army and navy of this State, and of the militia, except when they shall be called into the service of the United States.

7. He may require information, in writing, from the officers of the executive department, on any subject relating to the duties of their respective offices.

8. He may, by proclamation, on extraordinary occasions, convene the Legislature at the seat of government, or at a different place, if that should be in the actual possession of a public enemy; in case of disagreement between the two houses with respect to the adjournment, he may adjourn them to such time as he shall think proper, not beyond the day of the next regular meeting of the Legislature.

9. He shall, from time to time, give to the Legislature information, in writing, of the state of the government, and recommend to their consideration such measures as he may deem expedient.

10. He shall take care that the laws be faithfully executed.

11. In all criminal cases, except in those of treason and impeachment, he shall have power, after conviction, to grant reprieves and pardons; and, under such rules as the Legislature may prescribe, he shall have power to remit fines and forfeitures. In cases of treason, he shall have power, by and with the advice and consent of the Senate, to grant reprieves and pardons; and he may, in the recess of the Senate, respite the sentence until the end of the next session of the Legislature.

12. There shall also be a Lieutenant-Governor, who shall be chosen at every election for Governor by the same persons, and in the same manner, continue in office for the same time, and possess the same qualifications. In voting for Governor and Lieutenant-Governor, the electors shall distinguish for whom they vote for as Governor and for whom as Lieutenant-Governor. The Lieutenant-Governor shall, by virtue of his office, be President of the Senate, and have, when in committee of the whole, a right to debate and vote on all questions, and, when the Senate is equally divided, to give the casting vote. In case of the death, resignation, removal from office, inability or refusal of the Governor to serve, or of his impeachment or absence from the State, the Lieutenant-Governor shall exercise the powers and authority appertaining to the office of Governor, until another be chosen at the periodical election for Governor, and be duly qualified, or until the Governor impeached, absent, or disabled, shall be acquitted, return, or his disability be removed.

13. Whenever the government shall be administered by the Lieutenant-Governor, or he shall be unable to attend as President of the Senate, the Senate shall elect one of their own members as President for the time being. And if, during the vacancy of the office of Governor, the Lieutenant-Governor shall die, resign, refuse to serve, or be removed from office, or be unable to serve, or if he shall be impeached, or absent from the State, the President of the Senate for the time being shall, in like manner, administer the government until he shall be superseded by a Governor or Lieutenant-Governor; the Lieutenant-Governor shall, whilst he acts as President of the Senate, receive for his services the same compensation which shall be allowed to the Speaker of the House of Representatives, and no more; and during the time he administers the government as Governor, shall receive the same compensation which the Governor would have received had he been employed in the duties of his office, and no more. The President for the time being of the Senate shall, during the time he administers the government, receive in like manner the same compensation which the Governor would have received had he been employed in the duties of his office. If the Lieutenant-Governor shall be required to administer the government, and shall, whilst in such administration, die, resign, or be



absent from the State, during the recess of the Legislature, it shall be the duty of the Secretary of State to convene the Senate for the purpose of choosing a President for the time being.

14. There shall be a seal of the State, which shall be kept by the Governor and used by him officially. The said seal shall be a star of five points encircled by an olive and live-oak branches, and the words, "the State of Texas."

15. All commissions shall be in the name and by the authority of the State of Texas, be sealed with the State seal, signed by the Governor, and attested by the Secretary of State.

16. There shall be a Secretary of State, who shall be appointed by the Governor, by and with the advice and consent of the Senate, and shall continue in office during the term of service of the Governor elect. He shall keep a fair register of all official acts and proceedings of the Governor; and shall, when required, lay the same, and all papers, minutes and vouchers, relative thereto, before the Legislature, or either house thereof; and shall perform such other duties as may be required of him by law.

17. Every bill which shall have passed both houses of the Legislature shall be presented to the Governor; if he approve, he shall sign it; but if not, he shall return it with his objections to the house in which it shall have originated, who shall enter the objections at large upon the journals, and proceed to reconsider it; if, after such reconsideration, two-thirds of the members present shall agree to pass the bill, it shall be sent, with the objections, to the other house, by which it shall likewise be reconsidered; if approved by two-thirds of the members present of that house, it shall become a law; but, in such cases, the votes of both houses shall be determined by yeas and nays, and the names of the members voting for or against the bill shall be entered on the journals of each house respectively. If any bill shall not be returned by the Governor within five days, Sundays excepted, after it shall have been presented to him, the same shall be a law, in like manner as if he had signed it. Every bill presented to the Governor one day previous to the adjournment of the Legislature, and not returned to the house in which it originated, before its adjournment, shall become a law, and have the same force and effect as if signed by the Governor.

18. Every order, resolution, or vote, to which the concurrence of both houses of the Legislature may be necessary, except on questions of adjournment, shall be presented to the Governor, and before it shall take effect, be approved by him; or, being disapproved, shall be repassed by both houses according to the rules and limitations prescribed in the case of a bill.

19. The Governor, by and with the advice and consent of two-thirds of the Senate, shall appoint a convenient number of notaries-public, not exceeding six for each county, who, in addition to such duties as are prescribed by law, shall discharge such other duties as the Legislature may, from time to time, prescribe.

20. Nominations to fill vacancies that may have occurred during the recess shall be made to the Senate during the first ten days of its session. And should any nomination so made be rejected, the same individual shall not again be nominated during the session to fill the same office. And should the Governor fail to make nominations to fill any vacancy during the session of the Senate, such vacancy shall not be filled by the Governor until the next meeting of the Senate.

21. The Governor shall reside, during the session of the Legislature, at the place where their sessions may be held, and, at all other times, wherever, in their opinion, the public good may require.

22. No person holding the office of Governor shall hold any other office or commission, civil or military.

23. A State treasurer and comptroller of public accounts shall be biennially elected by the joint ballot of both houses of the Legislature, and, in case of vacancy in either of said offices during the recess of the Legislature, such vacan-

cy shall be filled by the Governor, which appointment shall continue until the close of the next session of the Legislature thereafter.

#### ARTICLE VI.—*Militia.*

SEC. 1. The Legislature shall provide by law for organizing and disciplining the militia of this State, in such manner as they shall deem expedient, not incompatible with the Constitution and laws of the United States in relation thereto.

2. Any person who conscientiously scruples to bear arms, shall not be compelled to do so, but shall pay an equivalent for personal service.

3. No licensed minister of the gospel shall be required to perform military duty, work on roads, or serve on juries, in this State.

4. The Governor shall have power to call forth the militia to execute the laws of the State, to suppress insurrections, and to repel invasions.

#### ARTICLE VII.—*General Provisions.*

SEC. 1. Members of the Legislature, and all officers, before they enter upon the duties of their office, shall take the following oath or affirmation: "I, A. B., do solemnly swear (or affirm) that I will faithfully and impartially discharge and perform all the duties incumbent on me as ———, according to the best of my skill and ability, agreeably to the Constitution and laws of the United States, and of this State; and I do further solemnly swear (or affirm) that, since the adoption of this Constitution by the Congress of the United States, I, being a citizen of this State, have not fought a duel with deadly weapons within this State, or out of it; nor have I sent or accepted a challenge to fight a duel with deadly weapons; nor have I acted as second in carrying a challenge, or aided, advised, or assisted any person thus offending: so help me God."

2. Treason against this State shall consist only in levying war against it, or in adhering to its enemies, giving them aid and comfort; and no person shall be convicted of treason, unless on the testimony of two witnesses to the same overt act, or his own confession in open court.

3. Every person shall be disqualified from holding any office of trust or profit in this State, who shall have been convicted of having given or offered a bribe to procure his election or appointment.

4. Laws shall be made, to exclude from office, serving on juries, and from the right of suffrage, those who shall hereafter be convicted of bribery, perjury, forgery, or other high crimes. The privilege of free suffrage shall be supported by laws regulating elections, and prohibiting, under adequate penalties, all undue influence thereon, from power, bribery, tumult, or other improper practice.

5. Any citizen of this State, who shall, after the adoption of this Constitution, fight a duel with deadly weapons, or send or accept a challenge to fight a duel with deadly weapons, either within the State or out of it, or who shall act as second, or knowingly aid and assist, in any manner, those thus offending, shall be deprived of holding any office of trust or profit under this State.

6. In all elections by the people, the vote shall be by ballot, until the Legislature shall otherwise direct; and in all elections by the Senate and House of Representatives, jointly or separately, the vote shall be given *viva voce*, except in the election of their officers.

7. The Legislature shall provide by law for the compensation of all officers, servants, agents, and public contractors not provided for by this Constitution; and shall not grant extra compensation to any officer, agent, servant, or public contractor, after such public service shall have been performed, or contract entered into for the performance of the same; nor grant, by appropriation or otherwise, any amount of money out of the treasury of the State, to any individual, on a claim, real or pretended, where the same shall not have been provided for by pre-existing law: Provided, that nothing in this section shall be so construed as to affect the claims of persons against the republic of Texas, heretofore existing.

8. No money shall be drawn from the treasury but in pursuance of specific appropriations made by law; nor shall any appropriation of money be made



for a longer term than two years, except for purposes of education; and no appropriation for private or individual purposes, or for purposes of internal improvement, shall be made without the concurrence of two-thirds of both houses of the Legislature. A regular statement and account of the receipts and expenditures of all public money shall be published annually, in such manner as shall be prescribed by law. And in no case shall the Legislature have the power to issue treasury warrants, treasury notes, or paper of any description, intended to circulate as money.

9. All civil officers shall reside within the State; and all district or county officers, within their districts or counties; and shall keep their offices at such places therein, as may be required by law.

10. The duration of all offices not fixed by this Constitution, shall never exceed four years.

11. Absence on the business of this State, or of the United States, shall not forfeit a residence once obtained, so as to deprive any one of the right of suffrage, or of being elected or appointed to any office, under the exceptions contained in this Constitution.

12. The Legislature shall have power to provide for deductions from the salaries of public officers, who may neglect the performance of any duty that may be assigned them by law.

13. No member of Congress, nor person holding or exercising any office of profit or trust under the United States, or either of them, or under any foreign power, shall be eligible as a member of the Legislature, or hold or exercise any office of profit or trust under this State.

14. The Legislature shall provide for a change of venue in civil and criminal cases; and for the erection of a penitentiary at as early a day as practicable.

15. It shall be the duty of the Legislature to pass such laws as may be necessary and proper to decide differences by arbitration, when the parties shall elect that method of trial.

16. Within five years after the adoption of this Constitution, the laws, civil and criminal, shall be revised digested, arranged, and published in such manner as the Legislature shall direct; and a like revision, digest, and publication, shall be made every ten years thereafter.

17. No lottery shall be authorized by this State; and the buying or selling of lottery tickets within this State is prohibited.

18. No divorce shall be granted by the Legislature.

19. All property both real and personal, of the wife, owned or claimed by her before marriage, and that acquired afterwards by gift, devise, or descent, shall be her separate property; and laws shall be passed more clearly defining the rights of the wife, in relation as well to her separate property, as that held in common with her husband. Laws shall also be passed providing for the registration of the wife's separate property.

20. The rights of property and of action which have been acquired under the Constitution and laws of the republic of Texas, shall not be divested; nor shall any rights or actions which have been divested, barred, or declared null and void by the Constitution and laws of the republic of Texas, be re-invested, revived, or reinstated by this Constitution; but the same shall remain precisely in the situation in which they were before the adoption of this Constitution.

21. All claims, locations, surveys, grants, and titles to land, which are declared null and void by the Constitution of the republic of Texas, are, and the same shall remain forever, null and void.

22. The Legislature shall have power to protect by law, from forced sale, a certain portion of the property of all heads of families. The homestead of a family, not to exceed two hundred acres of land (not included in a town or city), or any town or city lot or lots, in value not to exceed two thousand dollars, shall not be subject to forced sale for any debts hereafter contracted; nor shall the owner, if a married man, be at liberty to alienate the same, unless by the consent of the wife, in such manner as the Legislature may hereafter point out.

23. The Legislature shall provide in what cases officers shall continue to

perform the duties of their offices until their successors shall be duly qualified.

24. Every law enacted by the Legislature shall embrace but one object, and that shall be expressed in the title.

25. No law shall be revised or amended by reference to its title; but, in such case, the act revised or section amended, shall be re-enacted and published at length.

26. No person shall hold or exercise, at the same time, more than one civil office of emolument, except that of justice of the peace.

27. Taxation shall be equal and uniform throughout the State. All property in this State shall be taxed in proportion to its value, to be ascertained as directed by law; except such property as two-thirds of both houses of the Legislature may think proper to exempt from taxation. The Legislature shall have power to lay an income tax, and to tax all persons pursuing any occupation, trade, or profession: *provided*, that the term "occupation," shall not be construed to apply to pursuits either agricultural or mechanical.

28. The Legislature shall have power to provide by law for exempting from taxation two hundred and fifty dollars' worth of the household furniture, or other property belonging to each family in this State.

29. The assessor and collector of taxes shall be appointed in such manner, and under such regulations, as the Legislature may direct.

30. No corporate body shall hereafter be created, renewed, or extended, with banking or discounting privileges.

31. No private corporation shall be created, unless the bill creating it shall be passed by two-thirds of both houses of the Legislature; and two-thirds of the Legislature shall have power to revoke and repeal all private corporations, by making compensation for the franchise. And the State shall not be part owner of the stock or property belonging to any corporation.

32. The Legislature shall prohibit, by law, individuals from issuing bills, checks, promissory notes, or other paper, to circulate as money.

33. The aggregate amount of debts hereafter contracted by the Legislature shall never exceed the sum of one hundred thousand dollars, except in case of war, to repel invasions, or suppress insurrections. And in no case shall any amount be borrowed, except by a vote of two-thirds of both houses of the Legislature.

34. The Legislature shall, at the first session thereof, and may, at any subsequent session, establish new counties for the convenience of the inhabitants of such new county or counties: *provided*, that no new county shall be established, which shall reduce the county or counties, or either of them, from which it shall be taken, to a less area than nine hundred square miles (except the county of Bowie), unless by consent of two-thirds of the Legislature; nor shall any county be laid off of less contents. Every new county, as to the right of suffrage and representation, shall be considered as part of the county or counties from which it was taken, until entitled, by numbers, to the right of separate representation.

35. No soldier shall, in time of peace, be quartered in the house, or within the enclosure, of any individual, without the consent of the owner, nor in time of war, but in a manner prescribed by law.

36. The salaries of the Governor and judges of the Supreme and district courts are hereby fixed at the minimum established in the Constitution, and shall not be increased for ten years.

37. *Mode of amending the Constitution.*—The Legislature, whenever two-thirds of each house shall deem it necessary, may propose amendments to this Constitution; which proposed amendments shall be duly published in the public prints of the State, at least three months before the next general election of representatives, for the consideration of the people: and it shall be the duty of the several returning officers, at the next election, which shall be thus holden, to open a poll for, and make a return to, the Secretary of State, of the names of all those voting for representatives, who have voted on such proposed amendments; and if thereupon it shall appear that a majority of all the citizens of this State, voting for representatives, have voted in favor of such proposed



amendments, and two-thirds of each house of the next Legislature shall, after such election, and before another, ratify the same amendments by yeas and nays, they shall be valid, to all intents and purposes, as parts of this Constitution: *provided*, that the said proposed amendments shall, at each of the said sessions, have been read on three several days in each house.

#### ARTICLE VIII.—*Slaves.*

SEC. 1. The Legislature shall have no power to pass laws for the emancipation of slaves, without the consent of their owners, nor without paying their owners, previous to such emancipation, a full equivalent in money for the slaves so emancipated. They shall have no power to prevent emigrants to this State from bringing with them such persons as are deemed slaves by the laws of any of the United States, so long as any person of the same age or description shall be continued in slavery by the laws of this State: *provided*, that such slave be the *bona fide* property of such emigrants: *provided*, also, that laws shall be passed to inhibit the introduction into this State of slaves who have committed high crimes in other States or Territories. They shall have the right to pass laws to permit the owners of slaves to emancipate them, saving the rights of creditors, and preventing them from becoming a public charge. They shall have full power to pass laws which will oblige the owners of slaves to treat them with humanity; to provide for them necessary food and clothing; to abstain from all injuries to them extending to life or limb; and, in case of their neglect or refusal to comply with the directions of such laws, to have such slave or slaves taken from such owner, and sold for the benefit of such owner or owners. They may pass laws to prevent slaves from being brought into this State as merchandise only.

2. In the prosecution of slaves for crimes of a higher grade than petit larceny, the Legislature shall have no power to deprive them of an impartial trial by a petit jury.

3. Any person who shall maliciously dismember, or deprive a slave of life, shall suffer such punishment as would be inflicted in case the like offence had been committed upon a free white person, and on like proof, except in case of insurrection of such slave.

#### ARTICLE IX.—*Impeachment.*

SEC. 1. The power of impeachment shall be vested in the House of Representatives.

2. Impeachments of the Governor, Lieutenant-governor, attorney-general, secretary of State, treasurer, comptroller, and of the judges of the district courts, shall be tried by the Senate.

3. Impeachments of judges of the Supreme Court shall be tried by the Senate. When sitting as a court of impeachment, the senators shall be upon oath or affirmation; and no person shall be convicted without the concurrence of two-thirds of the senators present.

4. Judgment in cases of impeachment shall extend only to removal from office, and disqualification from holding any office of honor, trust or profit, under this State; but the parties convicted shall, nevertheless, be subject to indictment, trial, and punishment, according to law.

5. All officers against whom articles of impeachment may be preferred, shall be suspended from the exercise of the duties of their office during the pendency of such impeachment; the appointing power may make a provisional appointment, to fill the vacancy occasioned by the suspension of an officer, until the decision on the impeachment.

6. The Legislature shall provide for the trial, punishment, and removal from office, of all other officers of the State, by indictment, or otherwise.

#### ARTICLE X.—*Education.*

SEC. 1. A general diffusion of knowledge being essential to the preservation of the rights and liberties of the people, it shall be the duty of the Legislature of this State to make suitable provision for the support and maintenance of public schools.

2. The Legislature shall, as early as practicable, establish free schools throughout the State, and shall furnish means for their support, by taxation on property; and it shall be the duty of the Legislature to set apart not less than one-tenth of the annual revenue of the State derivable from taxation, as a perpetual fund, which fund shall be appropriated to the support of free public schools; and no law shall ever be made diverting said fund to any other use; and until such time as the Legislature shall provide for the establishment of such schools in the several districts of the State, the fund thus created shall remain as a charge against the State, passed to the credit of the free common-school fund.

3. All public lands which have been heretofore, or which may hereafter be, granted for public schools, to the various counties, or other political divisions in this State, shall not be alienated in fee, nor disposed of otherwise than by lease, for a term not exceeding twenty years, in such manner as the Legislature may direct.

4. The several counties in this State, which have not received their quantum of lands, for the purposes of education, shall be entitled to the same quantity heretofore appropriated by the Congress of the republic of Texas to other counties.

#### ARTICLE XI.

1. All certificates for head-right claims to lands issued to fictitious persons, or which were forged, and all locations and surveys thereon, are, and the same were, null and void from the beginning.

2. The district courts shall be opened until the first day of July, one thousand eight hundred and forty-seven, for the establishment of certificates for head-rights not recommended by the commissioners appointed under the act to detect fraudulent land certificates, and to provide for issuing patents to legal claimants; and the parties suing shall produce the like proof, and be subjected to the requisitions which were necessary and were prescribed by law, to sustain the original application for the said certificates; and all certificates above referred to, not established or sued upon before the period limited, shall be barred; and the said certificates, and all locations and surveys thereon, shall be forever null and void; and all re-locations made on such survey, shall not be disturbed until the certificates are established as above directed.

#### ARTICLE XII.—*Land Office.*

There shall be one general land office in the State, which shall be at the seat of government, where all titles which have heretofore emanated, or may hereafter emanate, from government, shall be registered. And the Legislature may establish, from time to time, such subordinate offices as they may deem requisite.



## IOWA.



THE attention of emigrants has been turned, with peculiar interest, towards this new State. It is now settling more rapidly than any other portion of the great West. Iowa formed the territorial government in 1838. In 1844 it adopted a Constitution, and asked to be admitted into the union as an independent State. A law was passed by Congress for that purpose in 1845, which altered the bounds fixed in the Constitution. It was rejected, because it diminished its territory. In 1846 terms were agreed upon, and Iowa became the 29th State in the union.

Area, 150,000 sq. m. Pop. in 1850, 192,214: in 1856, 509,414.

### CONSTITUTION.\*

#### *Preamble and Boundaries.*

WE, the people of the State of Iowa, grateful to the Supreme Being for the blessings hitherto enjoyed, and feeling our dependence on Him for a continuation of those blessings, do ordain and establish a free and independent government, by the name of the State of Iowa, the boundaries whereof shall be as follows:

Beginning in the middle of the main channel of the Mississippi river, at a point due east of the middle of the mouth of the main channel of the Des Moines river, thence up the middle of the main channel of the said Des Moines river, to a point on said river where the northern boundary line of the State of Missouri, as established by the Constitution of that State, adopted June 12th,

\* Adopted in convention, March 5th, 1857, and ratified by the people, August 3d, 1857.

1820—crosses the said middle of the main channel of the said Des Moines river; thence westwardly along the said northern boundary line of the State of Missouri, as established at the time aforesaid, until an extension of said line intersects the middle of the main channel of the Missouri river; thence up the middle of the main channel of the said Missouri river to a point opposite the middle of the main channel of the Big Sioux river, according to Nicollett's map; thence up the main channel of the said Big Sioux river, according to the said map, until it is intersected by the parallel of forty-three degrees and thirty minutes north latitude; thence east along said parallel of forty-three degrees and thirty minutes, until said parallel intersects the middle of the main channel of the Mississippi river; thence down the middle of the main channel of the said Mississippi river to the place of beginning.

#### ARTICLE I.—*Bill of Rights.*

SEC. 1. All men are, by nature, free and equal, and have certain inalienable rights, among which are those of enjoying and defending life and liberty, acquiring, possessing, and protecting property, and pursuing and obtaining safety and happiness.

2. All political power is inherent in the people. Government is instituted for the protection, security, and benefit of the people, and they have the right, at all times, to alter or reform the same, whenever the public good may require it.

3. The General Assembly shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof; nor shall any person be compelled to attend any place of worship, pay tithes, taxes, or other rates, for building or repairing places of worship, or the maintenance of any minister or ministry.

4. No religious test shall be required as a qualification for any office or public trust, and no person shall be deprived of any of his rights, privileges, or capacities, or disqualified from the performance of any of his public or private duties, or rendered incompetent to give evidence in any court of law or equity, in consequence of his opinions on the subject of religion; and any party to any judicial proceeding shall have the right to use as a witness, or take the testimony of, any other person, not disqualified on account of interest, who may be cognizant of any fact material to the case; and parties to suits may be witnesses, as provided by law.

5. Any citizen of this State who may hereafter be engaged, either directly, or indirectly, in a duel, either as principal or accessory before the fact, shall forever be disqualified from holding any office under the Constitution and laws of this State.

6. All laws of a general nature shall have a uniform operation; the General Assembly shall not grant to any citizen or class of citizens, privileges or immunities, which upon the same terms shall not equally belong to all citizens.

7. Every person may speak, write, and publish his sentiments on all subjects, being responsible for the abuse of that right. No law shall be passed to restrain or abridge the liberty of speech, or of the press. In all prosecutions or indictments for libel, the truth may be given in evidence to the jury, and if it appear to the jury that the matter charged as libelous was true, and was published with good motives, and for justifiable ends, the party shall be acquitted.

8. The right of the people to be secure in their persons, houses, papers, and effects against unreasonable seizures and searches shall not be violated; and no warrant shall issue but on probable cause, supported by oath or affirmation, particularly describing the place to be searched, and the person and things to be seized.

9. The right of trial by jury shall remain inviolate; but the General Assembly may authorize trial by a jury of a less number than twelve men in inferior courts: but no person shall be deprived of life, liberty, or property, without due process of law.



10. In all criminal prosecutions, and in cases involving the life or liberty of an individual, the accused shall have a right to a speedy and public trial by an impartial jury; to be informed of the accusation against him; to have a copy of the same when demanded; to be confronted with the witnesses against him; to have compulsory process for his witnesses; and to have the assistance of counsel.

11. All offenses less than felony, and in which the punishment does not exceed a fine of one hundred dollars, or imprisonment for thirty days, shall be tried summarily before a Justice of the Peace, or other officer authorized by law, on information under oath, without indictment, or the intervention of a grand jury, saving to the defendant the right of appeal; and no person shall be held to answer for any higher criminal offense, unless on presentment or indictment by a grand jury, except in cases arising in the army or navy, or in the militia, when in actual service, in time of war or public danger.

12. No person shall, after acquittal, be tried for the same offense. All persons shall, before conviction, be bailable by sufficient sureties, except for capital offenses, where the proof is evident, or the presumption great.

13. The writ of habeas corpus shall not be suspended, or refused when application is made as required by law, unless in case of rebellion or invasion, the public safety may require it.

14. The military shall be subordinate to the civil power. No standing army shall be kept up by the State in time of peace; and in time of war, no appropriation for a standing army shall be for a longer time than two years.

15. No soldier shall, in time of peace, be quartered in any house without the consent of the owner, nor in time of war, except in the manner prescribed by law.

16. Treason against the State shall consist only in levying war against it, adhering to its enemies, or giving them aid and comfort. No person shall be convicted of treason, unless on the evidence of two witnesses to the same overt act, or confession in open court.

17. Excessive bail shall not be required; excessive fines shall not be imposed, and cruel and unusual punishments shall not be inflicted.

18. Private property shall not be taken for public use without just compensation first being made, or secured to be made, to the owner thereof, as soon as the damages shall be assessed by a jury, who shall not take into consideration any advantages that may result to said owner on account of the improvement for which it is taken.

19. No person shall be imprisoned for debt in any civil action, on mesne or final process, unless in case of fraud; and no person shall be imprisoned for a military fine in time of peace.

20. The people have the right freely to assemble together to counsel for the common good; to make known their opinions to their representatives, and to petition for a redress of grievances.

21. No bill of attainder, ex-post-facto law, or law impairing the obligation of contracts, shall ever be passed.

22. Foreigners who are, or may hereafter become, residents of this State, shall enjoy the same rights in respect to the possession, enjoyment, and descent of property, as native-born citizens.

23. There shall be no slavery in this State; nor shall there be involuntary servitude, unless for the punishment of crime.

24. No lease or grant of agricultural lands, reserving any rent, or service of any kind, shall be valid for a longer period than twenty years.

25. This enumeration of rights shall not be construed to impair or deny others, retained by the people.

## ARTICLE II.—*Right of Suffrage.*

SEC. 1. Every white male citizen of the United States of the age of twenty-one years, who shall have been a resident of this State six months next pre-

ceding the election, and of the county in which he claims his vote sixty days, shall be entitled to vote at all elections which are now, or hereafter may be, authorized by law.

2. Electors shall, in all cases except treason, felony, or breach of the peace, be privileged from arrest on the days of election, during their attendance at such elections, going to and returning therefrom.

3. No elector shall be obliged to perform military duty on the day of election, except in time of war or public danger.

4. No person in the military, naval, or marine service of the United States shall be considered a resident of this State by being stationed in any garrison, barrack, or military or naval place or station within this State.

5. No idiot or insane person, or person convicted of any infamous crime, shall be entitled to the privilege of an elector.

6. All elections by the people shall be by ballot.

### ARTICLE III.—*Of the Distribution of Powers.*

SEC. 1. The powers of the government of Iowa shall be divided into three separate departments: The Legislative, the Executive, and the Judicial; and no person charged with the exercise of powers properly belonging to one of these departments shall exercise any function appertaining to either of the others, except in cases hereinafter expressly directed or permitted.

#### *Legislative Department.*

SEC. 1. The legislative authority of this State shall be vested in a General Assembly, which shall consist of a Senate and House of Representatives; and the style of their laws shall commence in the following manner: "Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Iowa."

2. The sessions of the General Assembly shall be biennial, and shall commence on the second Monday in January next ensuing the election of its members; unless the Governor of the State shall, in the meantime, convene the General Assembly by proclamation.

3. The members of the House of Representatives shall be chosen every second year, by the qualified electors of their respective districts, on the second Tuesday in October, except the years of the Presidential election, when the election shall be on the Tuesday next after the first Monday in November; and their term of office shall commence on the first day of January next after their election, and continue two years, and until their successors are elected and qualified.

4. No person shall be a member of the House of Representatives who shall not have attained the age of twenty-one years; be a free white male citizen of the United States, and shall have been an inhabitant of this State one year next preceding his election; and at the time of his election, shall have had an actual residence of sixty days in the county or district he may have been chosen to represent.

5. Senators shall be chosen for the term of four years, at the same time and place as representatives; they shall be twenty-five years of age, and possess the qualifications of representatives as to residence and citizenship.

6. The number of senators shall not be less than one-third nor more than one-half the representative body, and shall be so classified by lot, that one class being as nearly one-half as possible, shall be elected every two years. When the number of senators is increased, they shall be annexed by lot to one of the two classes, so as to keep them as nearly equal in numbers as practicable.

7. Each house shall choose its own officers, and judge of the qualification, election, and return of its own members. A contested election shall be determined in such manner as shall be directed by law.

8. A majority of each house shall constitute a quorum to transact business, but a smaller number may adjourn from day to day, and may compel the attendance



of absent members in such manner and under such penalties as each house may provide.

9. Each house shall sit upon its own adjournments, keep a journal of its proceedings, and publish the same; determine its rules of proceedings, punish members for disorderly behavior, and with the consent of two-thirds, expel a member, but not a second time for the same offense, and shall have all other powers necessary for a branch of the General Assembly of a free and independent State.

10. Every member of the General Assembly shall have the liberty to dissent from or protest against any act or resolution which he may think injurious to the public or an individual, and have the reasons for his dissent entered on the journals; and the yeas and nays of the members of either house, on any question, shall, at the desire of any two members present, be entered on the journals.

11. Senators and representatives in all cases except treason, felony, or breach of the peace, shall be privileged from arrest during the session of the General Assembly, and in going to and returning from the same.

12. When vacancies occur in either house, the Governor or the person exercising the functions of Governor, shall issue writs of election to fill such vacancies.

13. The doors of each house shall be open, except on such occasions as, in the opinion of the house, may require secrecy.

14. Neither house shall, without the consent of the other, adjourn for more than three days, nor to any other place than that in which they may be sitting.

15. Bills may originate in either house, and may be amended, altered, or rejected by the other; and every bill having passed both houses, shall be signed by the Speaker and President of their respective houses.

16. Every bill which shall have passed the General Assembly shall, before it becomes a law, be presented to the Governor. If he approve, he shall sign it, but if not, he shall return it with his objections, to the house in which it originated, which shall enter the same upon their journal and proceed to reconsider it; if, after such reconsideration, it again pass both houses, by yeas and nays, by a majority of two-thirds of the members of each house, it shall become a law notwithstanding the Governor's objections. If any bill shall not be returned within three days after it shall have been presented to him, Sunday excepted, the same shall be a law in like manner as if he had signed it, unless the General Assembly by adjournment prevent such return. Any bill submitted to the Governor for his approval during the last three days of a session of the General Assembly, shall be deposited by him in the office of the Secretary of State within thirty days after the adjournment, with his approval if approved by him, and with his objections if he disapproves thereof.

17. No bill shall be passed unless by the assent of a majority of all the members elected to each branch of the General Assembly, and the question upon the final passage shall be taken immediately upon its last reading, and the yeas and nays entered on the journal.

18. An accurate statement of the receipts and expenditures of the public money shall be attached to and published with the laws, at every regular session of the General Assembly.

19. The House of Representatives shall have the sole power of impeachment, and all impeachments shall be tried by the Senate. When sitting for that purpose, the senators shall be upon oath or affirmation; and no person shall be convicted without the concurrence of two-thirds of the members present.

20. The Governor, Judges of the Supreme and District Courts, and other State officers shall be liable to impeachments for any misdemeanor in office; but judgment in such cases shall extend only to removal from office, and disqualification to hold any office of honor, trust, or profit under this State; but the party convicted or acquitted shall nevertheless be liable to indictment,

trial, and punishment, according to law. All other civil officers shall be tried for misdemeanors and malfeasance in office in such manner as the General Assembly may provide.

21. No senator or representative shall, during the time for which he shall have been elected, be appointed to any civil office of profit under this State, which shall have been created, or the emoluments of which shall have been increased, during such term, except such offices as may be filled by elections by the people.

22. No person holding any lucrative office under the United States, or this State, or any other power, shall be eligible to hold a seat in the General Assembly; But offices in the militia, to which there is attached no annual salary, or the office of justice of the peace, or postmaster, whose compensation does not exceed one hundred dollars per annum, or notary public, shall not be deemed lucrative.

23. No person who may hereafter be a collector or holder of public monies, shall have a seat in either house of the General Assembly, or be eligible to hold any office of trust or profit under this State, until he shall have accounted for and paid into the treasury, all sums for which he may be liable.

24. No money shall be drawn from the treasury but in consequence of appropriations made by law.

25. Each member of the first General Assembly under this Constitution shall receive three dollars per diem while in session; and the further sum of three dollars for every twenty miles traveled in going to and returning from the place where such session is held, by the nearest traveled route; after which they shall receive such compensation as shall be fixed by law; but no General Assembly shall have the power to increase the compensation of its own members. And when convened in extra session, they shall receive the same mileage and per diem compensation as fixed by law for the regular session, and none other.

26. No law of the General Assembly, passed at a regular session, of a public nature, shall take effect until the fourth day of July next after the passage thereof. Laws passed at a special session shall take effect ninety days after the adjournment of the General Assembly by which they were passed. If the General Assembly shall deem any law of immediate importance, they may provide that the same shall take effect by publication in newspapers in the State.

27. No divorce shall be granted by the General Assembly.

28. No lottery shall be authorized by this State, nor shall the sale of lottery tickets be allowed.

29. Every act shall embrace but one subject, and matters properly connected therewith; which subject shall be expressed in the title. But if any subject shall be embraced in an act which shall not be expressed in the title, such act shall be void only as to so much thereof as shall not be expressed in the title.

30. The General Assembly shall not pass local or special laws in the following cases:

For the assessment and collection of taxes for State, county, or road purposes;

For laying out, opening, and working roads or highways;

For changing the names of persons;

For the incorporation of cities and towns;

For vacating roads, town plats, streets, alleys, or public squares;

For locating or changing county seats.

In all the cases above enumerated, and in all other cases where a general law can be made applicable, all laws shall be general, and of uniform operation throughout the State; and no law changing the boundary lines of any county shall have effect until upon being submitted to the people of the counties affected by the change, at a general election, it shall be approved by a majority of the votes in each county, east for and against it.

31. No extra compensation shall be made to any officer, public agent, or contractor, after the service shall have been rendered, or the contract entered into;



nor shall any money be paid on any claim, the subject matter of which shall not have been provided for by pre-existing laws, and no public money or property shall be appropriated for local, or private purposes, unless such appropriation, compensation, or claim be allowed by two-thirds of the members elected to each branch of the General Assembly.

32. Members of the General Assembly shall, before they enter upon the duties of their respective offices, take and subscribe the following oath or affirmation: I do solemnly swear or affirm (as the case may be,) that I will support the Constitution of the United States, and the Constitution of the State of Iowa, and that I will faithfully discharge the duties of senator (or representative as the case may be), according to the best of my ability. And members of the General Assembly are hereby empowered to administer to each other the said oath or affirmation.

33. The General Assembly shall, in the years one thousand eight hundred and fifty-nine, one thousand eight hundred and sixty-three, one thousand eight hundred and sixty-five, one thousand eight hundred and sixty-seven, one thousand eight hundred and sixty-nine, and one thousand eight hundred and seventy-five, and every ten years thereafter, cause an enumeration to be made of all the white inhabitants of the State.

34. The number of Senators shall, at the next session following each period of making such enumeration, and the next session following each United States' census, be fixed by law, and apportioned among the several counties according to the number of white inhabitants in each.

35. The Senate shall not consist of more than fifty members, nor the House of Representatives of more than one hundred; and they shall be apportioned among the several counties and representative districts of the State according to the number of white inhabitants in each, upon ratios to be fixed by law; but no representative district shall contain more than four organized counties, and each district shall be entitled to at least one representative. Every county and district which shall have a number of inhabitants equal to one half of the ratio fixed by law, shall be entitled to one representative; and any one county containing in addition to the ratio fixed by law one half of that number, or more, shall be entitled to one additional representative. No floating district shall hereafter be formed.

36. At its first session under this Constitution, and at every subsequent regular session, the General Assembly shall fix the ratio of representation, and also form into representative districts those counties which will not be entitled singly to a representative.

37. When a congressional, senatorial, or representative district shall be composed of two or more counties, it shall not be entirely separated by any county belonging to another district; and no county shall be divided in forming a congressional, senatorial, or representative district.

38. In all elections by the General Assembly, the members thereof shall vote *niva voce*, and the votes shall be entered on the journal.

#### ARTICLE IV.—*Executive Department.*

SEC. 1. The supreme executive power of this State shall be vested in a chief magistrate, who shall be styled the Governor of the State of Iowa.

2. The Governor shall be elected by the qualified electors at the time and place of voting for members of the General Assembly, and shall hold his office two years from the time of his installation, and until his successor is elected and qualified.

3. There shall be a Lieutenant-Governor, who shall hold his office two years, and be elected at the same time as the Governor. In voting for Governor and Lieutenant-Governor, the electors shall designate for whom they vote as Governor, and for whom as Lieutenant-Governor. The returns of every election for Governor and Lieutenant-Governor shall be sealed up and transmitted to the

seat of government of the State, directed to the Speaker of the House of Representatives, who shall open and publish them in the presence of both houses of the General Assembly.

4. The persons respectively having the highest number of votes for Governor and Lieutenant-Governor, shall be declared duly elected; but in case two or more persons shall have an equal, and the highest number of votes for either office, the General Assembly shall, by joint vote, forthwith proceed to elect one of said persons Governor, or Lieutenant-Governor, as the case may be.

5. Contested elections for Governor, or Lieutenant-Governor, shall be determined by the General Assembly in such manner as may be prescribed by law.

6. No person shall be eligible to the office of Governor, or Lieutenant-Governor, who shall not have been a citizen of the United States, and a resident of the State two years next preceding the election, and attained the age of thirty years at the time of said election.

7. The Governor shall be commander-in-chief of the militia, the army, and navy of this State.

8. He shall transact all executive business with the officers of government, civil and military, and may require information in writing from the officers of the executive department, upon any subject relating to the duties of their respective offices.

9. He shall take care that the laws are faithfully executed.

10. When any office shall from any cause become vacant, and no mode is provided by the Constitution and laws for filling such vacancy, the Governor shall have power to fill such vacancy, by granting a commission, which shall expire at the end of the next session of the General Assembly, or at the next election by the people.

11. He may, on extraordinary occasions, convene the General Assembly by proclamation, and shall state to both houses, when assembled, the purpose for which they shall have been convened.

12. He shall communicate by message to the General Assembly, at every regular session, the condition of the State, and recommend such matters as he shall deem expedient.

13. In case of disagreement between the two houses, with respect to the time of adjournment, the Governor shall have power to adjourn the General Assembly to such time as he may think proper, but no such adjournment shall be beyond the time fixed for the regular meeting of the next General Assembly.

14. No person shall, while holding any other office under the authority of the United States, or this State, execute the office of Governor or Lieutenant-Governor, except as hereinafter expressly provided.

15. The official term of the Governor, and Lieutenant-Governor, shall commence on the second Monday of January next after their election, and continue for two years, and until their successors are elected and qualified. The Lieutenant Governor, while acting as Governor, shall receive the same pay as provided for Governor; and while presiding in the Senate, shall receive as compensation therefor, the same mileage and double the per diem pay provided for a Senator, and none other.

16. The Governor shall have power to grant reprieves, commutations, and pardons, after conviction, for all offenses except treason and cases of impeachment, subject to such regulations as may be provided by law. Upon conviction for treason, he shall have power to suspend the execution of the sentence until the case shall be reported to the General Assembly at its next meeting, when the General Assembly shall either grant a pardon, commute the sentence, direct the execution of the sentence, or grant a further reprieve. He shall have power to remit fines and forfeitures, under such regulations as may be prescribed by law; and shall report to the General Assembly, at its next meeting, each case of reprieve, commutation, or pardon granted, and the reasons therefor; and also all persons in whose favor remission of fines and forfeitures shall have been made, and the several amounts remitted.



17. In case of the death, impeachment, resignation, removal from office, or other disability of the Governor, the powers and duties of the office for the residue of the term, or until he shall be acquitted, or the disability removed, shall devolve upon the Lieutenant Governor.

18. The Lieutenant Governor shall be President of the Senate, but shall only vote when the Senate is equally divided; and in case of his absence, or impeachment, or when he shall exercise the office of Governor, the Senate shall choose a President pro tempore.

19. If the Lieutenant Governor, while acting as Governor, shall be impeached, displaced, resign, or die, or otherwise become incapable of performing the duties of the office, the President pro tempore of the Senate shall act as Governor until the vacancy is filled, or the disability removed; and if the President of the Senate, for any of the above causes, shall be rendered incapable of performing the duties pertaining to the office of Governor, the same shall devolve upon the Speaker of the House of Representatives.

20. There shall be a seal of this State, which shall be kept by the Governor, and used by him officially, and shall be called the Great Seal of the State of Iowa.

21. All grants and commissions shall be in the name and by the authority of the people of the State of Iowa, sealed with the Great Seal of the State, signed by the Governor, and countersigned by the Secretary of State.

22. A Secretary of State, Auditor of State, and Treasurer of State, shall be elected by the qualified electors, who shall continue in office two years, and until their successors are elected and qualified; and perform such duties as may be required by law.

#### ARTICLE V.—*Judicial Department.*

SEC. 1. The judicial power shall be vested in a Supreme Court, District Court, and such other Courts, inferior to the Supreme Court, as the General Assembly may, from time to time, establish.

2. The Supreme Court shall consist of three Judges, two of whom shall constitute a quorum to hold Court.

3. The Judges of the Supreme Court shall be elected by the qualified electors of the State, and shall hold their Court at such time and place as the General Assembly may prescribe. The Judges of the Supreme Court so elected shall be classified so that one Judge shall go out of office every two years; and the Judge holding the shortest term of office, under such classification, shall be Chief Justice of the Court during his term, and so on in rotation. After the expiration of their terms of office, under such classification, the term of each Judge of the Supreme Court shall be six years, and until his successor shall have been elected and qualified. The Judges of the Supreme Court shall be ineligible to any other office in the State during the term for which they shall have been elected.

4. The Supreme Court shall have appellate jurisdiction only in cases in chancery, and shall constitute a Court for the correction of errors at law, under such restrictions as the General Assembly may by law prescribe; and shall have power to issue all writs and process necessary to secure justice to parties, and exercise a supervisory control over all inferior judicial tribunals throughout the State.

5. The District Court shall consist of a single Judge, who shall be elected by the qualified electors of the District in which he resides. The Judge of the District Court shall hold his office for the term of four years, and until his successor shall have been elected and qualified; and shall be ineligible to any other office, except that of Judge of the Supreme Court, during the term for which he was elected.

6. The District Court shall be a Court of law and equity, which shall be distinct and separate jurisdictions, and have jurisdiction in civil and criminal matters arising in their respective districts, in such manner as shall be prescribed by law.

7. The Judges of the Supreme and District Courts shall be conservators of the peace throughout the State.

8. The style of all process shall be, "The State of Iowa," and all prosecutions shall be conducted in the name and by the authority of the same.

9. The salary of each Judge of the Supreme Court shall be two thousand dollars per annum; and that of each District Judge one thousand six hundred dollars per annum, until the year eighteen hundred and sixty; after which time they shall severally receive such compensation as the General Assembly may, by law, prescribe; which compensation shall not be increased or diminished during the term for which they shall have been elected.

10. The State shall be divided into eleven Judicial Districts; and after the year eighteen hundred and sixty, the General Assembly may re-organize the Judicial Districts, and increase or diminish the number of Districts, or the number of Judges of the said Court, and may increase the number of Judges of the Supreme Court; but such increase or diminution shall not be more than one District, or one Judge of either Court, at any one session; and no re-organization of the Districts, or diminution of the number of Judges, shall have the effect of removing a Judge from office. Such re-organization of the Districts, or any change in the boundaries thereof, or increase or diminution of the number of Judges, shall take place every four years thereafter, if necessary, and at no other time.

11. The Judges of the Supreme and District Courts shall be chosen at the general election; and the term of office of each Judge shall commence on the first day of January next after his election.

12. The General Assembly shall provide, by law, for the election of an Attorney General by the people, whose term of office shall be two years, and until his successor shall have been elected and qualified.

13. The qualified electors of each Judicial District shall, at the time of the election of District Judge, elect a District Attorney, who shall be a resident of the District for which he is elected, and who shall hold his office for the term of four years, and until his successor shall have been elected and qualified.

14. It shall be the duty of the General Assembly to provide for the carrying into effect of this article, and to provide for a general system of practice in all the Courts of this State.

#### ARTICLE VI.—*Militia.*

SEC. 1. The militia of this State shall be composed of all able-bodied white male citizens, between the ages of eighteen and forty-five years, except such as are or may hereafter be exempt by the laws of the United States, or of this State; and shall be armed, equipped, and trained, as the General Assembly may provide by law.

2. No person or persons conscientiously scrupulous of bearing arms shall be compelled to do military duty in time of peace: Provided, That such person or persons shall pay an equivalent for such exemption in the same manner as other citizens.

3. All commissioned officers of the militia (staff officers excepted) shall be elected by the persons liable to perform military duty, and shall be commissioned by the Governor.

#### ARTICLE VII.—*State Debts.*

SEC. 1. The credit of the State shall not, in any manner, be given or loaned to, or in aid of, any individual, association, or corporation; and the State shall never assume, or become responsible for, the debts or liabilities of any individual, association, or corporation, unless incurred in time of war for the benefit of the State.

2. The State may contract debts to supply casual deficits or failures in revenues, or to meet expenses not otherwise provided for; but the aggregate amount of such debts, direct and contingent, whether contracted by virtue of one or



more acts of the General Assembly, or at different periods of time, shall never exceed the sum of two hundred and fifty thousand dollars; and the money arising from the creation of such debts, shall be applied to the purpose for which it was obtained, or to repay the debts so contracted, and to no other purpose whatever.

3. All losses to the permanent School, or University fund of this State, which shall have been occasioned by the defalcation, mismanagement, or fraud of the agents or officers controlling and managing the same, shall be audited by the proper authorities of the State. The amount so audited shall be a permanent funded debt against the State, in favor of the respective fund sustaining the loss, upon which not less than six per cent. annual interest shall be paid. The amount of liability so created shall not be counted as a part of the indebtedness authorized by the second section of this article.

4. In addition to the above limited power to contract debts, the State may contract debts to repel invasion, suppress insurrection, or defend the State in war; but the money arising from the debts so contracted shall be applied to the purpose for which it was raised, or to repay such debts, and to no other purpose whatever.

5. Except the debts herein before specified in this article, no debt shall be hereafter contracted by, or on behalf of this State, unless such debt shall be authorized by some law for some single work or object, to be distinctly specified therein; and such law shall impose and provide for the collection of a direct annual tax, sufficient to pay the interest on such debt, as it falls due, and also to pay and discharge the principal of such debt within twenty years from the time of the contracting thereof; but no such law shall take effect until at a general election it shall have been submitted to the people, and have received a majority of all the votes cast for and against it at such election; and all money raised by authority of such law shall be applied only to the specific object therein stated, or to the payment of the debt created thereby; and such law shall be published in at least one newspaper in each county, if one is published therein, throughout the State, for three months preceding the election at which it is submitted to the people.

6. The Legislature may, at any time, after the approval of such law by the people, if no debt shall have been contracted in pursuance thereof, repeal the same; and may at any time forbid the contracting of any further debt, or liability, under such law; but the tax imposed by such law, in proportion to the debt, or liability, which may have been contracted in pursuance thereof, shall remain in force and be irrepealable, and be annually collected, until the principal and interest are fully paid.

7. Every law which imposes, continues, or revives a tax, shall distinctly state the tax, and the object to which it is to be applied; and it shall not be sufficient to refer to any other law to fix such tax or object.

#### ARTICLE VIII.—*Corporations.*

SEC. 1. No corporation shall be created by special laws; but the General Assembly shall provide, by general laws, for the organization of all corporations hereafter to be created, except as hereinafter provided.

2. The property of all corporations for pecuniary profit shall be subject to taxation, the same as that of individuals.

3. The State shall not become a stockholder in any corporation, nor shall it assume or pay the debt or liability of any corporation, unless incurred in time of war for the benefit of the State.

4. No political or municipal corporation shall become a stockholder in any banking corporation, directly or indirectly.

5. No act of the General Assembly, authorizing or creating corporations or associations with banking powers, nor amendments thereto, shall take effect, or in any manner be in force, until the same shall have been submitted, separately, to the people, at a general or special election, as provided by law, to be held not

less than three months after the passage of the act, and shall have been approved by a majority of all the electors voting for and against it at such election.

6. Subject to the provisions of the foregoing section, the General Assembly may also provide for the establishment of a State bank with branches.

7. If a State bank be established, it shall be founded on an actual specie basis, and the branches shall be mutually responsible for each other's liabilities upon all notes, bills, and other issues intended for circulation as money.

8. If a general banking law shall be enacted, it shall provide for the registry and countersigning, by an officer of State, of all bills, or paper credit designed to circulate as money, and require security to the full amount thereof, to be deposited with the State Treasurer, in United States stocks, or in interest paying stocks of States in good credit and standing, to be rated at ten per cent. below their average value in the city of New York, for the thirty days next preceding their deposit; and in case of a depreciation of any portion of such stocks to the amount of ten per cent. on the dollar, the bank or banks owning said stocks shall be required to make up said deficiency by depositing additional stocks; and said law shall also provide for the recording of the names of all stockholders in such corporations, the amount of stock held by each, the time of any transfer, and to whom.

9. Every stockholder in a banking corporation or institution shall be individually responsible and liable to its creditors, over and above the amount of stock by him or her held, to an amount equal to his or her respective shares so held, for all of its liabilities, accruing while he or she remains such stockholder.

10. In case of the insolvency of any banking institution, the bill holders shall have a preference over its other creditors.

11. The suspension of specie payments by banking institutions shall never be permitted or sanctioned.

12. Subject to the provisions of this article, the General Assembly shall have power to amend or repeal all laws for the organization or creation of corporations, or granting of special or exclusive privileges or immunities, by a vote of two-thirds of each branch of the General Assembly; and no exclusive privileges, except as in this article provided, shall ever be granted.

#### ARTICLE IX.—*Education and School Lands.*

##### FIRST.—*Education.*

SEC. 1. The educational interest of the State, including Common Schools and other educational institutions, shall be under the management of a Board of Education, which shall consist of the Lieutenant Governor, who shall be the presiding officer of the Board, and have the casting vote in case of a tie, and one member to be elected from each judicial district in the State.

2. No person shall be eligible as a member of said Board who shall not have attained the age of twenty-five years, and shall have been one year a citizen of the State.

3. One member of said Board shall be chosen by the qualified electors of each district, and shall hold the office for the term of four years, and until his successor is elected and qualified. After the first election under this Constitution, the Board shall be divided, as nearly as practicable, into two equal classes, and the seats of the first class shall be vacated after the expiration of two years; and one-half of the Board shall be chosen every two years thereafter.

4. The first session of the Board of Education shall be held at the seat of government, on the first Monday of December after their election; after which the General Assembly may fix the time and place of meeting.

5. The session of the Board shall be limited to twenty days, and but one session shall be held in any one year, except upon extraordinary occasions, when, upon the recommendation of two-thirds of the Board, the Governor may order a special session.



6. The Board of Education shall appoint a Secretary, who shall be the executive officer of the Board, and perform such duties as may be imposed upon him by the Board and the laws of the State. They shall keep a journal of their proceedings, which shall be published and distributed in the same manner as the journals of the General Assembly.

7. All rules and regulations made by the Board shall be published and distributed to the several counties, townships, and school districts, as may be provided for by the Board, and when so made, published, and distributed, they shall have the force and effect of law.

8. The Board of Education shall have full power and authority to legislate and make all needful rules and regulations in relation to Common Schools, and other educational institutions, that are instituted, to receive aid from the School or University fund of this State; but all acts, rules, and regulations of said Board may be altered, amended, or repealed by the General Assembly; and when so altered, amended, or repealed, they shall not be re-enacted by the Board of Education.

9. The Governor of the State shall be, *ex-officio*, a member of said Board.

10. The Board shall have no power to levy taxes, or make appropriations of money. Their contingent expenses shall be provided for by the General Assembly.

11. The State University shall be established at one place without branches at any other place, and the University fund shall be applied to that institution, and no other.

12. The Board of Education shall provide for the education of all the youths of the State, through a system of Common Schools, and such schools shall be organized and kept in each school district at least three months in each year. Any district failing, for two consecutive years, to organize and keep up a school, as aforesaid, may be deprived of their portion of the school fund.

13. The members of the Board of Education shall each receive the same per diem during the time of their session, and mileage going to and returning therefrom, as members of the General Assembly.

14. A majority of the Board shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business; but no rule, regulation, or law, for the government of Common Schools, or other educational institutions, shall pass without the concurrence of a majority of all the members of the Board, which shall be expressed by the yeas and nays on the final passage. The style of all acts of the Board shall be, "Be it enacted by the Board of Education of the State of Iowa."

15. At any time after the year one thousand eight hundred and sixty-three, the General Assembly shall have power to abolish or re-organize said Board of Education, and provide for the educational interest of the State in any other manner that to them shall seem best and proper.

#### SECOND.—*School Funds and School Lands.*

SEC. 1. The educational and school funds and lands shall be under the control and management of the General Assembly of this State.

2. The University lands, and the proceeds thereof, and all monies belonging to said fund shall be a permanent fund for the sole use of the State University. The interest arising from the same shall be annually appropriated for the support and benefit of said University.

3. The General Assembly shall encourage, by all suitable means, the promotion of intellectual, scientific, moral, and agricultural improvement. The proceeds of all lands that have been, or hereafter may be, granted by the United States to this State for the support of schools, which may have been or shall hereafter be sold, or disposed of, and the five hundred thousand acres of land granted to the new States, under an act of Congress, distributing the proceeds of the public lands among the several States of the Union, approved in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and forty-one, and all estates of deceased persons who may have died without leaving a will or heir, and also such

per cent. as has been or may hereafter be granted by Congress, on the sale of lands in this State, shall be, and remain, a perpetual fund, the interest of which, together with all rents of the unsold lands, and such other means as the General Assembly may provide, shall be inviolably appropriated to the support of Common Schools throughout the State.

4. The money which may have been or shall be paid by persons as an equivalent for exemption from military duty, and the clear proceeds of all fines collected in the several counties for any breach of the penal laws, shall be exclusively applied, in the several counties in which such money is paid, or fine collected, among the several school districts of said counties, in proportion to the number of youths subject to enumeration in such districts, to the support of Common Schools, or the establishment of libraries, as the Board of Education shall from time to time provide.

5. The General Assembly shall take measures for the protection, improvement, or other disposition of such lands as have been, or may hereafter be reserved, or granted by the United States, or any person or persons, to this State, for the use of the University, and the funds accruing from the rents or sales of such lands, or from any other source for the purpose aforesaid, shall be, and remain, a permanent fund, the interest of which shall be applied to the support of said University, for the promotion of literature, the art and sciences, as may be authorized by the terms of such grant. And it shall be the duty of the General Assembly, as soon as may be, to provide effectual means for the improvement and permanent security of the funds of said University.

6. The financial agents of the school funds shall be the same that, by law, receive and control the State and county revenue for other civil purposes, under such regulations as may be provided by law.

7. The money subject to the support and maintenance of Common Schools shall be distributed to the districts in proportion to the number of youths, between the ages of five and twenty-one years, in such manner as may be provided by the General Assembly.

#### ARTICLE X.—*Amendments to the Constitution.*

SEC. 1. Any amendment or amendments to this Constitution may be proposed in either House of the General Assembly; and if the same shall be agreed to by a majority of the members elected to each of the two Houses, such proposed amendment shall be entered on their journals, with the yeas and nays taken thereon, and referred to the Legislature to be chosen at the next general election, and shall be published, as provided by law, for three months previous to the time of making such choice, and if, in the General Assembly so next chosen as aforesaid, such proposed amendment or amendments shall be agreed to by a majority of all the members elected to each House, then it shall be the duty of the General Assembly to submit such proposed amendment or amendments to the people, in such manner and at such time as the General Assembly shall provide; and if the people shall approve and ratify such amendment or amendments by a majority of the electors qualified to vote for members of the General Assembly voting thereon, such amendment or amendments shall become a part of the Constitution of this State.

2. If two or more amendments shall be submitted at the same time, they shall be submitted in such manner that the electors shall vote for or against each of such amendments separately.

3. At the general election to be held in the year one thousand eight hundred and seventy, and in each tenth year thereafter, and also at such times as the General Assembly may, by law, provide, the question, "Shall there be a Convention to revise the Constitution, and amend the same?" shall be decided by the electors qualified to vote for members of the General Assembly; and in case a majority of the electors so qualified, voting at such election for and against such proposition, shall decide in favor of a Convention for such purpose, the



General Assembly, at its next session, shall provide by law for the election of delegates to such Convention.

ARTICLE XI.—*Miscellaneous.*

SEC. 1. The jurisdiction of Justices of the Peace shall extend to all civil cases, (except cases in chancery, and cases where the question of title to real estate may arise,) where the amount in controversy does not exceed one hundred dollars, and by the consent of parties may be extended to any amount not exceeding three hundred dollars.

2. No new county shall be hereafter created containing less than four hundred and thirty-two square miles; nor shall the territory of any organized county be reduced below that area, except, the county of Worth, and the counties west of it along the northern boundary of this State, may be organized without additional territory.

3. No county, or other political or municipal corporation shall be allowed to become indebted, in any manner or for any purpose, to an amount in the aggregate exceeding five per centum on the value of the taxable property within such county or corporation—to be ascertained by the last State and county tax lists previous to the incurring of such indebtedness.

4. The boundaries of the State may be enlarged, with the consent of Congress and the General Assembly.

5. Every person elected or appointed to any office shall, before entering upon the duties thereof, take an oath or affirmation to support the Constitution of the United States, and of this State, and also an oath of office.

6. In all cases of elections to fill vacancies in office occurring before the expiration of a full term, the person so elected shall hold for the residue of the unexpired term; and all persons appointed to fill vacancies in office shall hold until the next general election, and until their successors are elected and qualified.

7. The General Assembly shall not locate any of the public lands which have been, or may be granted by Congress to this State, and the location of which may be given to the General Assembly upon lands actually settled, without the consent of the occupant. The extent of the claim of such occupant so exempted shall not exceed three hundred and twenty acres.

8. The seat of government is hereby permanently established, as now fixed by law, at the city of Des Moines, in the county of Polk; and the State University at Iowa City, in the county of Johnson.

ARTICLE XII.—*Schedule.*

SEC. 1. This Constitution shall be the supreme law of the State, and any law inconsistent therewith shall be void. The General Assembly shall pass all laws necessary to carry this Constitution into effect.

2. All laws now in force and not inconsistent with this Constitution, shall remain in force until they shall expire or be repealed.

3. All indictments, prosecutions, suits, pleas, complaints, process, and other proceedings pending in any of the courts, shall be prosecuted to final judgment and execution; and all appeals, writs of error, certiorari, and injunctions, shall be carried on in the several courts, in the same manner as now provided by law, and all offenses, misdemeanors and crimes that may have been committed before the taking effect of this Constitution, shall be subject to indictment, trial, and punishment, in the same manner as they would have been had not this Constitution been made.

4. All fines, penalties, or forfeitures due, or to become due, or accruing to the State, or to any county therein, or to the school fund, shall inure to the State, county, or school fund, in the manner prescribed by law.

5. All bonds executed to the State, or to any officer in his official capacity, shall remain in force and inure to the use of those concerned.

6. The first election under this Constitution shall be held on the second Tuesday in October, in the year one thousand eight hundred and fifty-seven, at which time the electors of the State shall elect the Governor and Lieutenant Governor. There shall also be elected, at such election, the successors of such State Senators as were elected at the August election, in the year one thousand eight hundred and fifty-four, and members of the House of Representatives, who shall be elected in accordance with the act of apportionment, enacted at the session of the General Assembly which commenced on the first Monday of December, one thousand eight hundred and fifty-six.

7. The first election for Secretary, Auditor, and Treasurer of State, Attorney General, District Judges, members of the Board of Education, District Attorneys, members of Congress, and such State officers as shall be elected at the April election, in the year one thousand eight hundred and fifty-seven, (except the Superintendent of Public Instruction,) and such county officers as were elected at the August election, in the year one thousand eight hundred and fifty-six, except Prosecuting Attorneys, shall be held on the second Tuesday of October, one thousand eight hundred and fifty-eight: *Provided*, that the time for which any District Judge or other State or county officer elected at the April election, in the year one thousand eight hundred and fifty-eight, shall not extend beyond the time fixed for filling like offices at the October election, in the year one thousand eight hundred and fifty-eight.

8. The first election for Judges of the Supreme Court, and such county officers as shall be elected at the August election, in the year one thousand eight hundred and fifty-seven, shall be held on the second Tuesday of October, in the year one thousand eight hundred and fifty-nine.

9. The first regular session of the General Assembly shall be held in the year one thousand eight hundred and fifty-eight, commencing on the second Monday of January of said year.

10. Senators elected at the August election, in the year one thousand eight hundred and fifty-six, shall continue in office until the second Tuesday of October, in the year one thousand eight hundred and fifty-nine, at which time their successors shall be elected as may be prescribed by law.

11. Every person elected by popular vote, by a vote of the General Assembly, or who may hold office by executive appointment, which office is continued by this Constitution, and every person who shall be so selected or appointed to any such office before the taking effect of this Constitution, (except as in this Constitution otherwise provided,) shall continue in office until the term for which such person has been or may be elected or appointed shall expire; but no such person shall continue in office after the taking effect of this Constitution for a longer period than the term of such office in this Constitution prescribed.

12. The General Assembly, at the first session under this Constitution, shall district the State into eleven Judicial Districts for District Court purposes; and shall also provide for the apportionment of the members of the General Assembly in accordance with the provisions of this Constitution.

13. This Constitution shall be submitted to the electors of the State at the August election, in the year one thousand eight hundred and fifty-seven, in the several election districts in this State. The ballots at such election shall be written or printed as follows: Those in favor of the Constitution, "New Constitution—Yes." Those against the Constitution, "New Constitution—No." The election shall be conducted in the same manner as the general elections of the State, and the poll-books shall be returned and canvassed as provided in the twenty-fifth chapter of the code, and abstracts shall be forwarded to the Secretary of State, which abstracts shall be canvassed in the manner provided for the canvass of State officers. And if it shall appear that a majority of all the votes cast at such election for and against this Constitution are in favor of the same, the Governor shall immediately issue his proclamation stating that fact, and such Constitution shall be the Constitution of the State of Iowa, and shall take effect from and after the publication of said proclamation.



14. At the same election that this Constitution is submitted to the people for its adoption or rejection, a proposition to amend the same by striking out the word "white" from the article on the "Right of Suffrage," shall be separately submitted to the electors of this State for adoption or rejection, in manner following, viz.: A separate ballot may be given by every person having a right to vote at said election, to be deposited in a separate box. And those given for the adoption of such proposition shall have the words, "Shall the word 'white' be stricken out of the article on the 'Right of Suffrage?'—Yes." And those given against the proposition shall have the words, "Shall the word 'white' be stricken out of the article on the 'Right of Suffrage?'—No" And if at said election the number of ballots cast in favor of said proposition shall be equal to a majority of those cast for and against this Constitution, then said word "white" shall be stricken from said article and be no part thereof.\*

15. Until otherwise directed by law, the county of Mills shall be in and a part of the Sixth Judicial District of this State.

\* The majority voted "No," and the word "white" is retained.





## WISCONSIN.



THE first settlement, in this state, was made at Green Bay, by the French, in the year 1670. In 1819, it was effectually explored by General Cass, then governor of the territory of Michigan. In 1838, the population was less than 10,000. In 1850, it was 304,226. About two-thirds of the inhabitants are from New England and New York, and the rest from different states of the Union, and different countries of Europe. They are well educated, industrious, order-loving, law-abiding, people, among whom idleness and want are unknown.

The territory was under the government of France till 1763 ; of Great Britain, till 1794 ; of Ohio, till 1800 ; of Indiana, till 1809 ; of Illinois, till 1818 ; of Michigan, till 1836 ; was under a territorial government till 1848, when, as a state, Wisconsin took her place in the confederacy of the states.

The state owes not a dollar ; and by her constitution, she is inhibited from ever owing at any time more than \$100,000. At an expense of about \$100,000 she is uniting Lake Michigan and the Mississippi River, giving her an uninterrupted internal navigation of about three hundred miles through the heart of the state. Then with a short canal, uniting the St. Croix River with Lake Superior, and with a canal around the Falls of St. Mary, (which must soon be made,) she will have navigable water on three sides, and through the middle of her territory. Then she can choose her market at New Orleans, Quebec or New York ; and will very soon be ready to welcome, with one hand, the hardy immigrant, on the majestic steamers, from the east, and with the other, the China trader on the cars thundering from the Pacific to the Mississippi on the west.

In fertility of soil, exhaustless water-power, and salubrity of climate, this state is not surpassed ; and for commercial, educational, religious, and social advantages, present, and prospective but sure, no state in the Union, no place in the world, to the settler, offers greater inducements than the new state of Wisconsin.

It comprises about 57,000 square miles, or about 36,000,000 of acres. One thirty-sixth part of this, with an addition of 500,000 acres, is inviolably devoted to the cause of common schools. Besides this, the amount of 46,080 acres, to be selected by the state, is given for a permanent University fund.

# CONSTITUTION.

## PREAMBLE.

WE, the people of Wisconsin, grateful to Almighty God for our freedom, in order to secure its blessings, form a more perfect government, ensure domestic tranquillity, and promote the general welfare, do establish this constitution.

## ARTICLE I.—*Declaration of Rights.*

SEC. 1. All men are born equally free and independent, and have certain inherent rights: among these are life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness. To secure these rights, governments are instituted among men, deriving their just powers from the consent of the governed.

2. There shall be neither slavery nor involuntary servitude in this state, otherwise than for the punishment of crime, whereof the party shall have been duly convicted.

3. Every person may freely speak, write, and publish his sentiments on all subjects, being responsible for the abuse of that right; and no laws shall be passed to restrain or abridge the liberty of speech or of the press. In all criminal prosecutions or indictments for libel, the truth may be given in evidence; and if it shall appear to the jury that the matter charged as libellous be true, and was published with good motives and for justifiable ends, the party shall be acquitted; and the jury shall have the right to determine the law and the fact.

4. The right of the people peaceably to assemble to consult for the common good, and to petition the government, or any department thereof, shall never be abridged.

5. The right of trial by jury shall remain inviolate; and shall extend to all cases at law, without regard to the amount in controversy; but a jury trial may be waived by the parties in all cases, in the manner prescribed by law.

6. Excessive bail shall not be required; nor shall excessive fines be imposed; nor shall cruel and unusual punishments be inflicted.

7. In all criminal prosecutions, the accused shall enjoy the right to be heard by himself and counsel; to demand the nature and cause of the accusation against him; to meet the witnesses face to face; to have compulsory process to compel the attendance of witnesses in his behalf: and in prosecutions by indictment or information, to a speedy public trial by an impartial jury of the county or district wherein the offence shall have been committed, which county or district shall have been previously ascertained by law.

8. No person shall be held to answer for a criminal offence, unless on the presentment or indictment of a grand jury, except in cases of impeachment, or in cases cognizable by justices of the peace, or arising in the army or navy, or in the militia when in actual service in time of war or public danger; and no person for the same offence shall be put twice in jeopardy of punishment, nor shall be compelled in any criminal case to be a witness against himself. All persons shall before conviction be bailable by sufficient sureties, except for capital offences, when the proof is evident or the presumption great; and the privilege of the writ of habeas corpus shall not be suspended unless when, in case of rebellion or invasion, the public safety may require.

9. Every person is entitled to a certain remedy in the laws, for all injuries or wrongs which he may receive in his person, property, or character; he ought to obtain justice freely, and without being obliged to purchase it; completely and without denial, promptly and without delay, conformably to the laws.

10. Treason against the state shall consist only in levying war against the same, or in adhering to its enemies, giving them aid and comfort. No person



shall be convicted of treason, unless on the testimony of two witnesses to the same overt act, or on confession in open court.

11. The right of people to be secure in their persons, houses, papers, and effects, against unreasonable searches and seizures, shall not be violated; and no warrant shall issue but upon probable cause, supported by oath or affirmation, and particularly describing the place to be searched, and the persons or things to be seized.

12. No bill of attainder, ex post facto law, nor any law impairing the obligation of contracts, shall ever be passed; and no conviction shall work corruption of blood or forfeiture of estate.

13. The property of no person shall be taken for public use, without just compensation therefor.

14. All lands within the state are declared to be allodial; and feudal tenures are prohibited. Leases and grants of agricultural land, for a longer term than fifteen years, in which rent or service of any kind shall be reserved, and all fines and like restraints upon alienation, reserved in any grant of land, hereafter made, are declared to be void.

15. No distinction shall ever be made by law between resident aliens and citizens, in reference to the possession, enjoyment, or descent of property.

16. No person shall be imprisoned for debt arising out of or founded on a contract, expressed or implied.

17. The privilege of the debtor to enjoy the necessary comforts of life, shall be recognised by wholesome laws, exempting a reasonable amount of property from seizure or sale, for the payment of any debt or liability hereafter contracted.

18. The right of every man to worship Almighty God according to the dictates of his own conscience, shall never be infringed; nor shall any man be compelled to attend, erect, or support any place of worship, or to maintain any ministry, against his consent. Nor shall any control of, or interference with the rights of conscience, be permitted, or any preference be given by law to any religious establishments or modes of worship. Nor shall any money be drawn from the treasury for the benefit of religious societies, or religious or theological seminaries.

19. No religious tests shall ever be required as a qualification for any office of public trust under the state; and no person shall be rendered incompetent to give evidence in any court of law or equity, in consequence of his opinions on the subject of religion.

20. The military shall be in strict subordination to the civil power.

21. Writs of error shall never be prohibited by law.

22. The blessings of a free government can only be maintained by a firm adherence to justice, moderation, temperance, frugality, and virtue, and by frequent recurrence to fundamental principles.

#### ARTICLE II.—*Boundaries.*

SEC. 1. It is hereby ordained and declared, that the State of Wisconsin doth consent and accept of the boundaries prescribed in the act of congress entitled, "An act to enable the people of Wisconsin territory to form a constitution and state government, and for the admission of such state into the Union," approved August sixth, one thousand eight hundred and forty-six, to wit: Beginning at the north-east corner of the state of Illinois, that is to say, at a point in the centre of lake Michigan where the line of forty-two degrees and thirty minutes of north latitude crosses the same; thence, running with the boundary line of the state of Michigan, through lake Michigan, Green Bay, to the mouth of Menomonee river; thence up the channel of the said river to the Brule river; thence up said last-mentioned river to lake Brule; thence along the southern shore of lake Brule, in a direct line, to the centre of the channel between Middle and South island, in the lake of the Desert; thence in a direct line to the head waters of the Montreal river, as marked upon the survey made by Captain Cram; thence

down the main channel of the Montreal river to the middle of lake Superior; thence through the centre of lake Superior to the mouth of the St. Louis river; thence up the main channel of said river, to the first rapids in the same, above the Indian village, according to Nicollet's map; thence due south to the main branch of the river St. Croix; thence down the main channel of said river to the Mississippi; thence down the centre of the main channel of that river to the north-west corner of the state of Illinois; thence due east with the northern boundary of the state of Illinois, to the place of beginning, as established by "an act to enable the people of the Illinois territory to form a constitution and state government, and for the admission of such state into the Union on an equal footing with the original states," approved April 18th, 1818. *Provided, however,* That the following alteration of the aforesaid boundary be, and hereby is, proposed to the congress of the United States as the preference of the state of Wisconsin; and if the same shall be assented and agreed to by the congress of the United States, then the same shall be and for ever remain obligatory on the state of Wisconsin, viz: Leaving the aforesaid boundary line at the foot of the rapids of the St. Louis river; thence in a direct line, bearing south-westerly to the mouth of the Iskodewabo, or Rum river, where the same empties into the Mississippi river; thence down the main channel of the said Mississippi river, as prescribed in the aforesaid boundary.

2. The propositions contained in the act of congress are hereby accepted, ratified, and confirmed, and shall remain irrevocable without the consent of the United States; and it is hereby ordained, that this state shall never interfere with the primary disposal of the soil within the same, by the United States, nor with any regulations congress may find necessary for securing the title in such soil to *bona fide* purchasers thereof; and no tax shall be imposed on land, the property of the United States; and in no case shall non-resident proprietors be taxed higher than residents. *Provided,* That nothing in this constitution, or in the act of congress aforesaid, shall in any manner prejudice or affect the right of the state of Wisconsin to five hundred thousand acres of land granted to said state, and to be hereafter selected and located, by, and under the act of congress, entitled, "an act to appropriate the proceeds of the sales of the public lands, and grant pre-emption rights," approved September fourth, one thousand eight hundred and forty-one.

### ARTICLE III.—*Suffrage.*

SEC. 1. Every male person of the age of twenty-one years or upwards, belonging to either of the following classes, who shall have resided in the state for one year next preceding any election, shall be deemed a qualified elector at such election:

1st. White citizens of the United States.

2d. White persons of foreign birth, who shall have declared their intention to become citizens, conformably to the laws of the United States on the subject of naturalization.

3d. Persons of Indian blood, who have once been declared by law of congress to be citizens of the United States, any subsequent law of congress to the contrary notwithstanding.

4th. Civilized persons of Indian descent, not members of any tribe. *Provided,* That the legislature may at any time extend by law the right of suffrage to persons not herein enumerated; but no such law shall be in force until the same shall have been submitted to a vote of the people at a general election, and approved by a majority of all the votes cast at such election.

2. No person under guardianship, *non compos mentis*, or insane, shall be qualified to vote at any election; nor shall any person convicted of treason or felony, be qualified to vote at any election, unless restored to civil rights.

3. All votes shall be given by ballot, except for such township officers as may by law be directed or allowed to be otherwise chosen.



4. No person shall be deemed to have lost his residence in this state by reason of his absence on business of the United States or of this state.

5. No soldier, seaman, or marine, in the army or navy of the United States, shall be deemed a resident of this state in consequence of being stationed within the same.

6. Laws may be passed excluding from the right of suffrage all persons who have been or may be convicted of bribery or larceny, or of any infamous crime, and depriving every person who shall make, or become directly or indirectly interested in any bet or wager depending upon the result of any election, from the right to vote at such election.

#### ARTICLE IV.—*Legislative.*

SEC. 1. The legislative power shall be vested in a senate and assembly.

2. The number of the members of the assembly shall never be less than fifty-four, nor more than one hundred. The senate shall consist of a number not more than one-third, nor less than one-fourth of the number of the members of the assembly.

3. The legislature shall provide by law for an enumeration of the inhabitants of the state, in the year one thousand eight hundred and fifty-five, and at the end of every ten years thereafter; and at their first session after such enumeration, and also after each enumeration made by the authority of the United States, the legislature shall apportion and district anew the members of the senate and assembly, according to the number of inhabitants, excluding Indians not taxed, and soldiers and officers of the United States army and navy.

4. The members of the assembly shall be chosen annually by single districts on the Tuesday succeeding the first Monday of November, by the qualified electors of the several districts, such districts to be bounded by county, precinct, town, or ward lines, to consist of contiguous territory, and be in as compact form as practicable.

5. The senators shall be chosen by single districts of convenient contiguous territory, at the same time and in the same manner as members of the assembly are required to be chosen, and no assembly district shall be divided in the formation of a senate district. The senate districts shall be numbered in regular series, and the senators chosen by the odd numbered districts shall go out of office at the expiration of the first year, and the senators chosen by the even numbered districts shall go out of office at the expiration of the second year, and thereafter the senators shall be chosen for the term of two years.

6. No person shall be eligible to the legislature who shall not have resided one year within the state, and be a qualified elector in the district which he may be chosen to represent.

7. Each house shall be the judge of the elections, returns, and qualifications of its own members, and a majority of each shall constitute a quorum to do business; but a smaller number may adjourn from day to day, and may compel the attendance of absent members in such manner and under such penalties as each house may provide.

8. Each house may determine the rules of its own proceedings, punish for contempt and disorderly behavior, and, with the concurrence of two-thirds of all the members elected, expel a member; but no member shall be expelled a second time for the same cause.

9. Each house shall choose its own officers, and the senate shall choose a temporary president, when the lieutenant-governor shall not attend as president, or shall act as governor.

10. Each house shall keep a journal of its proceedings, and publish the same, except such parts as require secrecy. The doors of each house shall be kept open except when the public welfare shall require secrecy. Neither house shall, without consent of the other, adjourn for more than three days.

11. The legislature shall meet at the seat of government, at such time as

shall be provided by law, once in each year, and not oftener, unless convened by the governor.

12. No member of the legislature shall, during the term for which he was elected, be appointed or elected to any civil office in the state, which shall have been created or the emoluments of which shall have been increased during the term for which he was elected.

13. No person being a member of congress, or holding any military or civil office under the United States, shall be eligible to a seat in the legislature; and if any person shall, after his election as a member of the legislature, be elected to congress, or be appointed to any office, civil or military, under the government of the United States, his acceptance thereof shall vacate his seat.

14. The governor shall issue writs of election to fill such vacancies as may occur in either house of the legislature.

15. Members of the legislature shall in all cases except treason, felony, and breach of the peace, be privileged from arrest, nor shall they be subject to any civil process during the session of the legislature, nor for fifteen days next before the commencement and after the termination of each session.

16. No member of the legislature shall be liable in any civil action or criminal prosecution whatever, for words spoken in debate.

17. The style of the laws of the state shall be, "The people of the state of Wisconsin represented in senate and assembly, do enact as follows;" and no law shall be enacted except by bill.

18. No private or local bill, which may be passed by the legislature, shall embrace more than one subject, and that shall be expressed in the title.

19. Any bill may originate in either house of the legislature, and a bill passed by one house may be amended by the other.

20. The yeas and nays of the members of either house, on any question, shall at the request of one-sixth of those present, be entered on the journal.

21. Each member of the legislature shall receive for his services, two dollars and fifty cents for each day's attendance during the session, and ten cents for every mile he shall travel in going to and returning from the place of the meeting of the legislature, on the most usual route.

22. The legislature may confer upon the boards of supervisors of the several counties of the state, such powers of a local, legislative, and administrative character, as they shall from time to time prescribe.

23. The legislature shall establish but one system of town and county government, which shall be as nearly uniform as practicable.

24. The legislature shall never authorize any lottery, or grant any divorce.

25. The legislature shall provide by law, that all stationery required for the use of the state, and all printing authorized and required by them to be done for their use, or for the state, shall be let by contract to the lowest bidder; but the legislature may establish a maximum price. No member of the legislature, or other state officer, shall be interested, either directly or indirectly, in any such contract.

26. The legislature shall never grant any extra compensation to any public officer, agent, servant, or contractor, after the services shall have been rendered or the contract entered into. Nor shall the compensation of any public officer be increased or diminished during his term of office.

27. The legislature shall direct by law, in what manner and in what courts suits may be brought against the state.

28. Members of the legislature and all officers, executive and judicial, except such inferior officers as may be by law exempted, shall, before they enter upon the duties of their respective offices, take and subscribe an oath or affirmation to support the Constitution of the United States, and the Constitution of the state of Wisconsin, and faithfully to discharge the duties of their respective offices to the best of their ability.

29. The legislature shall determine what persons shall constitute the militia



of the state, and may provide for organizing and disciplining the same in such manner as shall be prescribed by law.

30. In all elections to be made by the legislature, the members thereof shall vote *viva voce*, and their votes shall be entered on the journal.

#### ARTICLE V.—*Executive.*

SEC. 1. The executive power shall be vested in a governor, who shall hold his office for two years. A lieutenant-governor shall be elected at the same time, and for the same term.

2. No person, except a citizen of the United States, and a qualified elector of the state, shall be eligible to the office of governor, or lieutenant-governor.

3. The governor and lieutenant-governor shall be elected by the qualified electors of the state, at the times and places of choosing members of the legislature. The persons respectively having the highest number of votes for governor and lieutenant-governor, shall be elected. But in case two or more shall have an equal and the highest number of votes for governor or lieutenant-governor, the two houses of the legislature, at its next annual session, shall forthwith, by joint ballot, choose one of the persons so having an equal and the highest number of votes for governor or lieutenant-governor. The returns of election for governor and lieutenant-governor, shall be made in such manner as shall be provided by law.

4. The governor shall be commander-in-chief of the military and naval forces of the state. He shall have power to convene the legislature on extraordinary occasions; and in case of invasion, or danger from the prevalence of contagious disease at the seat of government, he may convene them at any other suitable place within the state. He shall communicate to the legislature, at every session, the condition of the state, and recommend such matters to them for their consideration, as he may deem expedient. He shall transact all necessary business with the officers of the government, civil and military. He shall expedite all such measures as may be resolved upon by the legislature, and shall take care that the laws be faithfully executed.

5. The governor shall receive during his continuance in office, an annual compensation of one thousand two hundred and fifty dollars.

6. The governor shall have power to grant reprieves, commutations, and pardons, after conviction, for all offences except treason and cases of impeachment, upon such conditions and with such restrictions and limitations as he may think proper, subject to such regulations as may be provided by law relative to the manner of applying for pardons. Upon conviction for treason, he shall have the power to suspend the execution of the sentence until the case shall be reported to the legislature at its next meeting, when the legislature shall either pardon, or commute the sentence, direct the execution of the sentence, or grant a further reprieve. He shall annually communicate to the legislature each case of reprieve, commutation, or pardon granted, stating the name of the convict, the crime of which he was convicted, the sentence and its date, and the date of the commutation, pardon, or reprieve, with his reasons for granting the same.

7. In case of the impeachment of the governor, or his removal from office, death, inability from mental or physical disease, resignation, or absence from the state, the powers and duties of the office shall devolve upon the lieutenant-governor, for the residue of the term, or until the governor, absent or impeached, shall have returned, or the disability shall cease. But when the governor shall, with the consent of the legislature, be out of the state in time of war, at the head of the military force thereof, he shall continue commander-in-chief of the military force of the state.

8. The lieutenant-governor shall be president of the senate, but shall have only a casting vote therein. If, during a vacancy in the office of governor, the lieutenant-governor shall be impeached, displaced, resign, die, or from mental or physical disease become incapable of performing the duties of his office, or be

absent from the state, the secretary of state shall act as governor until the vacancy shall be filled, or the disability shall cease.

9. The lieutenant-governor shall receive double the per diem allowance of members of the senate, for every day's attendance as president of the senate, and the same mileage as shall be allowed to members of the legislature.

10. Every bill which shall have passed the legislature, shall, before it becomes a law, be presented to the governor. If he approve, he shall sign it; but if not, he shall return it, with his objections, to that house in which it shall have originated, who shall enter the objections at large upon the journal, and proceed to re-consider it. If, after such re-consideration, two-thirds of the members present shall agree to pass the bill, it shall be sent, together with the objections, to the other house, by which it shall likewise be re-considered, and if approved by two-thirds of the members present, it shall become a law. But in all such cases, the votes of both houses shall be determined by yeas and nays, and the names of the members voting for or against the bill, shall be entered on the journal of each house respectively. If any bill shall not be returned by the governor within three days (Sundays excepted) after it shall have been presented to him, the same shall be a law, unless the legislature shall, by their adjournment, prevent its return; in which case it shall not be a law.

#### ARTICLE VI.—*Administrative.*

1. There shall be chosen by the qualified electors of the state, at the times and places of choosing the members of the legislature, a secretary of state, treasurer, and an attorney-general, who shall severally hold their offices for the term of two years.

2. The secretary of state shall keep a fair record of the official acts of the legislature and executive department of the state, and shall, when required, lay the same and all matters relative thereto before either branch of the legislature. He shall be *ex-officio* auditor, and shall perform such other duties as shall be assigned him by law. He shall receive as a compensation for his services, yearly, such sum as shall be provided by law, and shall keep his office at the seat of government.

3. The powers, duties, and compensation of the treasurer and attorney-general shall be prescribed by law.

4. Sheriffs, coroners, registers of deeds, and district-attorneys shall be chosen by the electors of the respective counties, once in every two years, and as often as vacancies shall happen. Sheriffs shall hold no other office, and be ineligible for two years next succeeding the termination of their offices. They may be required by law to renew their security from time to time; and in default of giving such new security, their offices shall be deemed vacant. But the county shall never be made responsible for acts of the sheriff. The governor may remove any officer in this section mentioned, giving to such officer a copy of the charges against him, and an opportunity of being heard in his defence.

#### ARTICLE VII.—*Judiciary.*

SEC 1. The court for the trial of impeachments shall be composed of the senate. The house of representatives shall have the power of impeaching all civil officers of this state, for corrupt conduct in office, or for crimes and misdemeanors; but a majority of all the members elected shall concur in an impeachment. On the trial of an impeachment against the governor, the lieutenant-governor shall not act as a member of the court. No judicial officer shall exercise his office after he shall have been impeached, until his acquittal. Before the trial of an impeachment, the members of the court shall take an oath or affirmation truly and impartially to try the impeachment, according to evidence; and no person shall be convicted without the concurrence of two-thirds of the members present. Judgment in cases of impeachment shall not extend further than to removal from office, or removal from office and disqualification to hold any office



of honor, profit, or trust under the state ; but the party impeached shall be liable to indictment, trial, and punishment, according to law.

2. The judicial power of this state, both as to matters of law and equity, shall be vested in a supreme court, circuit courts, courts of probate, and in justices of the peace. The legislature may also vest such jurisdiction as shall be deemed necessary in municipal courts, and shall have power to establish inferior courts in the several counties, with limited civil and criminal jurisdiction. *Provided,* That the jurisdiction which may be vested in municipal courts shall not exceed, in their respective municipalities, that of civil courts in their respective circuits, as prescribed in this constitution : and that the legislature shall provide as well for the election of judges of the municipal courts as of the judges of inferior courts, by the qualified electors of the respective jurisdictions. The term of office of the judges of the said municipal and inferior courts shall not be longer than that of the judges of the circuit court.

3. The supreme court, except in cases otherwise provided in this constitution, shall have appellate jurisdiction only, which shall be co-extensive with the state ; but in no case removed to the supreme court, shall a trial by jury be allowed. The supreme court shall have a general superintending control over all inferior courts ; it shall have power to issue writs of habeas corpus, mandamus, injunction, quo warranto, certiorari, and other original and remedial writs, and to hear and determine the same.

4. For the term of five years, and thereafter, until the legislature shall otherwise provide, the judges of the several circuit courts shall be judges of the supreme court, four of whom shall constitute a quorum, and the concurrence of a majority of the judges present shall be necessary to a decision. The legislature shall have power, if they should think it expedient and necessary, to provide by law for the organization of a separate supreme court, with the jurisdiction and powers prescribed in this constitution, to consist of one chief justice and two associate justices, to be elected by the qualified electors of the state, at such time and in such manner as the legislature may provide. The separate supreme court, when so organized, shall not be changed or discontinued by the legislature ; the judges thereof shall be so classified that but one of them shall go out of office at the same time, and their term of office shall be the same as is provided for the judges of the circuit court. And whenever the legislature may consider it necessary to establish a separate supreme court, they shall have power to reduce the number of circuit court judges to four, and subdivide the judicial circuits, but no such subdivision or reduction shall take effect until after the expiration of the term of some one of the said judges, or till a vacancy occur by some other means.

5. The state shall be divided into five judicial circuits, to be composed as follows : The first circuit shall comprise the counties of Racine, Walworth, Rock, and Green. The second circuit, the counties of Milwaukee, Waukesha, Jefferson, and Dane. The third circuit, the counties of Washington, Dodge, Columbia, Marquette, Sauk, and Portage. The fourth circuit, the counties of Brown, Manitowoc, Sheboygan, Fond du Lac, Winnebago, and Calumet. And the fifth circuit shall comprise the counties of Iowa, La Fayette, Grant, Crawford, and St. Croix ; and the county of Richland shall be attached to Iowa, the county of Chippewa to the county of Crawford, and the county of La Pointe to the county of St. Croix, for judicial purposes, until otherwise provided by the legislature.

6. The legislature may alter the limits, or increase the number of circuits, making them as compact and convenient as practicable, and bounding them by county lines ; but no such alteration or increase shall have the effect to remove a judge from office. In case of an increase of circuits, the judge or judges shall be elected as provided in this constitution, and receive a salary not less than that herein provided for judges of the circuit court.

7. For each circuit there shall be a judge chosen by the qualified electors therein, who shall hold his office as is provided in this constitution, and until his suc-

cessor shall be chosen and qualified; and after he shall have been elected, he shall reside in the circuit for which he was elected. One of said judges shall be designated as chief justice, in such manner as the legislature shall provide. And the legislature shall, at its first session, provide by law, as well for the election of, as for classifying, the judges of the circuit court, to be elected under this Constitution, in such manner that one of said judges shall go out of office in two years, one in three years, one in four years, one in five years, and one in six years, and thereafter the judge elected to fill the office shall hold the same for six years.

8. The circuit courts shall have original jurisdiction in all matters, civil and criminal, within this state, not excepted in this constitution, and not hereafter prohibited by law, an appellate jurisdiction from all inferior courts and tribunals, and a supervisory control over the same. They shall also have the power to issue writs of habeas corpus, mandamus, injunction, quo warranto, certiorari, and all other writs necessary to carry into effect their orders, judgments, and decrees, and give them a general control over inferior courts and jurisdictions.

9. When a vacancy shall happen in the office of judge of the supreme or circuit courts, such vacancy shall be filled by an appointment of the governor, which shall continue until a successor is elected and qualified; and when elected, such successor shall hold his office the residue of the unexpired term. There shall be no election for a judge or judges at any general election for state or county officers, nor within thirty days either before or after such election.

10. Each of the judges of the supreme and circuit courts shall receive a salary, payable quarterly, of not less than one thousand five hundred dollars annually; they shall receive no fees of office, or other compensation than their salaries; they shall hold no office of public trust, except a judicial office, during the term for which they are respectively elected, and all votes for either of them, for any office except a judicial office, given by the legislature or the people, shall be void. No person shall be eligible to the office of judge, who shall not, at the time of his election, be a citizen of the United States, and have attained the age of twenty-five years, and be a qualified elector within the jurisdiction for which he may be chosen.

11. The supreme court shall hold at least one term annually, at the seat of government of the state, at such time as shall be provided by law, and the legislature may provide for holding other terms, and at other places, when they may deem it necessary. A circuit court shall be held at least twice in each year, in each county of this state, organized for judicial purposes. The judges of the circuit court may hold courts for each other, and shall do so when required by law.

12. There shall be a clerk of the circuit court chosen in each county organized for judicial purposes, by the qualified electors thereof, who shall hold his office for two years, subject to removal as shall be provided by law. In case of a vacancy, the judge of the circuit court shall have the power to appoint a clerk, until the vacancy shall be filled by an election. The clerk thus elected or appointed, shall give such security as the legislature may require; and when elected, shall hold his office for a full term. The supreme court shall appoint its own clerk, and the clerk of a circuit court may be appointed clerk of the supreme court.

13. Any judge of the supreme or circuit court may be removed from office by address of both houses of the legislature, if two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, concur therein; but no removal shall be made by virtue of this section, unless the judge complained of shall have been served with a copy of the charges against him, as the ground of address, and shall have had an opportunity of being heard in his defence. On the question of removal, the ayes and noes shall be entered on the journals.

14. There shall be chosen in each county by the qualified electors thereof, a judge of probate, who shall hold his office for two years, and until his successor



shall be elected and qualified, and whose jurisdiction, powers, and duties, shall be prescribed by law: *Provided, however,* That the legislature shall have power to abolish the office of judge of probate in any county, and to confer probate powers upon such inferior courts as may be established in said county.

15. The electors of the several towns, at their annual town meetings, and the electors of cities and villages, at their charter elections, shall in such manner as the legislature may direct, elect justices of the peace, whose term of office shall be for two years, and until their successors in office shall be elected and qualified. In case of an election to fill a vacancy occurring before the expiration of a full term, the justice elected shall hold for the residue of the unexpired term. Their number and classification shall be regulated by law. And the tenure of two years shall in nowise interfere with the classification in the first instance. The justices thus elected, shall have such civil and criminal jurisdiction as shall be prescribed by law.

16. The legislature shall pass laws for the regulation of tribunals of conciliation, defining their powers and duties. Such tribunals may be established in and for any township, and shall have power to render judgment, to be obligatory on the parties, when they shall voluntarily submit their matter in difference to arbitration, and agree to abide the judgment, or assent thereto in writing.

17. The style of all writs and process shall be, "The state of Wisconsin." All criminal prosecutions shall be carried on in the name and by the authority of the same; and all indictments shall conclude, against the peace and dignity of the state.

18. The legislature shall impose a tax on all civil suits commenced or prosecuted in the municipal, inferior, or circuit courts, which shall constitute a fund to be applied toward the payment of the salary of judges.

19. The testimony in causes in equity, shall be taken in like manner as in cases at law; and the office of master in chancery, is hereby prohibited.

20. Any suitor in any court of this state, shall have the right to prosecute or defend his suit either in his own proper person or by an attorney or agent of his choice.

21. The legislature shall provide by law for the speedy publication of all statute laws, and of such judicial decisions made within the state, as may be deemed expedient. And no general law shall be in force until published.

22. The legislature at its first session after the adoption of this constitution, shall provide for the appointment of three commissioners, whose duty it shall be to inquire into, revise and simplify the rules of practice, pleadings, forms, and proceedings, and arrange a system adapted to the courts of record of this state, and report the same to the legislature, subject to their modification and adoption; and such commission shall terminate upon the rendering of the report, unless otherwise provided by law.

23. The legislature may provide for the appointment of one or more persons in each organized county, and may vest in such persons such judicial powers as shall be prescribed by law: *Provided,* That said power shall not exceed that of a judge of the circuit court at chambers.

#### ARTICLE VIII.—*Finance.*

SEC. 1. The rule of taxation shall be uniform, and taxes shall be levied upon such property as the legislature shall prescribe.

2. No money shall be paid out of the treasury, except in pursuance of an appropriation by law.

3. The credit of the state shall never be given or loaned in aid of any individual, association, or corporation.

4. The state shall never contract any public debt, except in the cases and manner herein provided.

5. The legislature shall provide for an annual tax sufficient to defray the estimated expenses of the state for each year; and whenever the expenses of any

year shall exceed the income, the legislature shall provide for levying a tax for the ensuing year, sufficient with other sources of income, to pay the deficiency, as well as the estimated expenses of such ensuing year.

6. For the purpose of defraying extraordinary expenditures, the state may contract public debts ; but such debts shall never in the aggregate exceed one hundred thousand dollars. Every such debt shall be authorized by law, for some purpose or purposes to be distinctly specified therein ; and the vote of a majority of all the members elected to each house, to be taken by yeas and nays, shall be necessary to the passage of such law ; and every such law shall provide for levying an annual tax sufficient to pay the annual interest of such debt, and the principal within five years from the passage of such law, and shall specially appropriate the proceeds of such taxes to the payment of such principal and interest ; and such appropriation shall not be repealed, nor the taxes be postponed or diminished until the principal and interest of such debt shall have been wholly paid.

7. The legislature may also borrow money to repel invasion, suppress insurrection, or defend the state in time of war ; but the money thus raised shall be applied exclusively to the object for which the loan was authorized, or to the repayment of the debt thereby created.

8. On the passage in either house of the legislature, of any law which imposes, continues, or renews a tax, or creates a debt or charge, or makes, continues, or renews an appropriation of public or trust money, or releases, discharges, or commutes a claim or demand of the state, the question shall be taken by yeas and nays, which shall be duly entered on the journal ; and three-fifths of all the members elected to such house, shall in all such cases be required to constitute a quorum therein.

9. No scrip, certificate, or other evidence of state debt whatsoever, shall be issued, except for such debts as are authorized by the sixth and seventh sections of this article.

10. The state shall never contract any debt for works of internal improvement, or be a party in carrying on such works ; but whenever grants of land or other property shall have been made to the state, especially dedicated by the grant to particular works of internal improvement, the state may carry on such particular works, and shall devote thereto the avails of such grants, and may pledge or appropriate the revenues derived from such works in aid of their completion.

#### ARTICLE IX.—*Eminent Domain and Property of the State.*

SEC. 1. The state shall have concurrent jurisdiction on all rivers and lakes bordering on this state, so far as such rivers or lakes shall form a common boundary to the state and any other state or territory now or hereafter to be formed and bounded by the same. And the river Mississippi and the navigable waters leading into the Mississippi and St. Lawrence, and the carrying places between the same, shall be common highways, and forever free as well to the inhabitants of the state, as to the citizens of the United States, without any tax, impost, or duty therefor.

2. The title to all lands and other property which have accrued to the territory of Wisconsin, by grant, gift, purchase, forfeiture, escheat, or otherwise, shall vest in the state of Wisconsin.

3. The people of the state in their right of sovereignty, are declared to possess the ultimate property in and to all lands within the jurisdiction of the state ; and all lands, the title to which shall fail from a defect of heirs, shall revert, or escheat to the people.

#### ARTICLE X.—*Education.*

SEC. 1. The supervision of public instruction shall be vested in a state superintendent, and such other officers as the legislature shall direct. The state superintendent shall be chosen by the qualified electors of the state, in such manner



as the legislature shall provide; his powers, duties, and compensation shall be prescribed by law. *Provided*, That his compensation shall not exceed the sum of twelve hundred dollars annually.

2. The proceeds of all lands that have been or hereafter may be granted by the United States to this state, for educational purposes, (except the lands heretofore granted for the purposes of a university,) and all moneys and the clear proceeds of all property that may accrue to the state by forfeiture or escheat, and all moneys which may be paid as an equivalent for exemption from military duty, and the clear proceeds of all fines collected in the several counties for any breach of the penal laws, and all moneys arising from any grant to the state, where the purposes of such grant are not specified, and the five hundred thousand acres of land to which the state is entitled by the provisions of an act of congress entitled, "an act to appropriate the proceeds of the sales of the public lands, and to grant pre-emption rights," approved the fourth day of September, one thousand eight hundred and forty-one, and also the five *per centum* of the nett proceeds of the public lands to which the state shall become entitled on her admission into the Union, (if congress shall consent to such appropriation of the two grants last mentioned,) shall be set apart as a separate fund, to be called the school fund, the interest of which, and all other revenues derived from the school lands, shall be exclusively applied to the following objects, to wit:

1st. To the support and maintenance of common schools in each school district, and the purchase of suitable libraries and apparatus therefor.

2d. The residue shall be appropriated to the support and maintenance of academies and normal schools, and suitable libraries and apparatus therefor.

3. The legislature shall provide by law for the establishment of district schools, which shall be as nearly uniform as practicable; and such schools shall be free and without charge for tuition to all children between the ages of four and twenty years; and no sectarian instruction shall be allowed therein.

4. Each town and city shall be required to raise by tax, annually, for the support of common schools therein, a sum not less than one-half the amount received by such town or city respectively for school purposes, from the income of the school fund.

5. Provision shall be made by law for the distribution of the income of the school fund among the several towns and cities of the state, for the support of common schools therein, in some just proportion to the number of children and youth resident therein, between the ages of four and twenty years; and no appropriation shall be made from the school fund to any city or town, for the year in which said city or town shall fail to raise such tax, nor to any school district for the year in which a school shall not be maintained at least three months.

6. Provision shall be made by law for the establishment of a state university, at or near the seat of the state government, and for connecting with the same from time to time such colleges in different parts of the state, as the interests of education may require. The proceeds of all lands that have been or may hereafter be granted by the United States to the state for the support of a university, shall be and remain a perpetual fund, to be called the "university fund," the interest of which shall be appropriated to the support of the state university; and no sectarian instruction shall be allowed in such university.

7. The secretary of state, treasurer, and attorney-general, shall constitute a board of commissioners for the sale of the school and university lands, and for the investment of the funds arising therefrom. Any two of said commissioners shall be a quorum for the transaction of all business pertaining to the duties of their office.

8. Provision shall be made by law for the sale of all school and university lands, after they shall have been appraised; and when any portion of such lands shall be sold, and the purchase money shall not be paid at the time of the sale, the commissioners shall take security by mortgage upon the land sold, for

the sum remaining unpaid, with seven per cent. interest thereon, payable annually at the office of the treasurer. The commissioners shall be authorized to execute a good and sufficient conveyance to all purchasers of such lands, and to discharge any mortgages taken as security, when the sum due thereon shall have been paid. The commissioners shall have power to withhold from sale any portion of such lands when they shall deem it expedient; and shall invest all moneys arising from the sale of such lands, as well as all other university and school funds, in such manner as the legislature shall provide, and shall give such security for the faithful performance of their duties as may be required by law.

#### ARTICLE XI.—*Corporations.*

SEC. 1. Corporations without banking powers or privileges may be formed under general laws, but shall not be created by special act, except for municipal purposes, and in cases where, in the judgment of the legislature, the objects of the corporation cannot be attained under general laws. All general laws or special acts enacted under the provisions of this section may be altered or repealed by the legislature at any time after their passage.

2. No municipal corporation shall take private property for public use against the consent of the owner, without the necessity thereof being first established by the verdict of a jury.

3. It shall be the duty of the legislature, and they are hereby empowered to provide for the organization of cities and incorporated villages, and to restrict their power of taxation, assessment, borrowing money, contracting debts, and loaning their credit, so as to prevent abuses in assessments and taxation, and in contracting debts by such municipal corporations.

4. The legislature shall not have power to create, authorize, or incorporate, by any general or special law, any bank or banking power or privilege, or any institution or corporation, having any banking power or privilege whatever, except as provided in this article.

5. The legislature may submit to the voters at any general election, the question of "bank or no bank;" and if at any such election, a number of votes equal to a majority of all the votes cast at such election on that subject shall be in favor of banks, then the legislature shall have power to grant bank charters, or to pass a general banking law, with such restrictions and under such regulations as they may deem expedient and proper for the security of the bill-holders: *Provided*, That no such grant or law shall have any force or effect until the same shall have been submitted to a vote of the electors of the state at some general election, and been approved by a majority of the votes cast on that subject at such election.

#### ARTICLE XII.—*Amendments.*

SEC. 1. Any amendment or amendments to this constitution may be proposed in either house of the legislature, and if the same shall be agreed to by a majority of the members elected to each of the two houses, such proposed amendment or amendments shall be entered on their journals with the yeas and nays taken thereon, and referred to the legislature to be chosen at the next general election, and shall be published for three months previous to the time of holding such election. And if in the legislature so next chosen, such proposed amendment or amendments shall be agreed to by a majority of all the members elected to each house, then it shall be the duty of the legislature to submit such proposed amendment or amendments to the people, in such manner and at such time as the legislature shall prescribe, and if the people shall approve and ratify such amendment or amendments by a majority of the electors voting thereon, such amendment or amendments shall become part of the constitution: *Provided*, That if more than one amendment be submitted, they shall be submitted in such manner that the people may vote for or against such amendments separately.



2. If at any time a majority of the senate and assembly shall deem it necessary to call a convention to revise or change this constitution, they shall recommend to the electors to vote for or against a convention at the next election for members of the legislature ; and if it shall appear that a majority of the electors voting thereon have voted for a convention, the legislature shall at its next session provide for calling such convention.

#### ARTICLE XIII.—*Miscellaneous Provisions.*

SEC. 1. The political year for the state of Wisconsin shall commence on the first Monday in January in each year, and the general election shall be holden on the Tuesday succeeding the first Monday in November in each year.

2. Any inhabitant of this state who may hereafter be engaged, either directly or indirectly, in a duel, either as principal or accessory, shall forever be disqualified as an elector, and from holding any office under the constitution and laws of this state, and may be punished in any other manner as shall be prescribed by law.

3. No member of congress, nor any person holding any office of profit or trust under the United States (postmasters excepted), or under any foreign power : no person convicted of any infamous crime in any court within the United States, and no person being a defaulter to the United States, or to this state, or to any county or town therein, or to any state or territory within the United States, shall be eligible to any office of trust, profit, or honor in this state.

4. It shall be the duty of the legislature to provide a great seal for the state, which shall be kept by the secretary of state ; and all official acts of the governor, his approbation of the laws excepted, shall be thereby authenticated.

5. All persons residing upon Indian lands within any county of the state, and qualified to exercise the right of suffrage under this constitution, shall be entitled to vote at the polls which may be held nearest their residence, for state, United States, or county officers ; *Provided*, that no person shall vote for county officers out of the county in which he resides.

6. The elective officers of the legislature, other than the presiding officers, shall be a chief-clerk, and a sergeant-at-arms, to be elected by each house.

7. No county with an area of nine hundred square miles or less, shall be divided, or have any part stricken therefrom, without submitting the question to a vote of the people of the county, nor unless a majority of all the legal voters of the county voting on the question, shall vote for the same.

8. No county seat shall be removed until the point to which it is proposed to be removed, shall be fixed by law, and a majority of the voters of the county, voting on the question, shall have voted in favor of its removal to such point.

9. All county officers whose election or appointment is not provided for by this constitution, shall be elected by the electors of the respective counties, or appointed by the boards of supervisors or other county authorities, as the legislature shall direct. All city, town, and village officers, whose election or appointment is not provided for by this constitution, shall be elected by the electors of such cities, towns, and villages, or of some division thereof, or appointed by such authorities thereof, as the legislature shall designate for that purpose. All other officers whose election or appointment is not provided for by this constitution, and all officers whose offices may hereafter be created by law, shall be elected by the people, or appointed as the legislature may direct.

10. The legislature may declare the cases in which any office shall be deemed vacant, and also the manner of filling the vacancy where no provision is made for that purpose, in this constitution.

#### ARTICLE XIV.—*Schedule.*

SEC. 1. That no inconvenience may arise by reason of a change from a territorial to a permanent state government, it is declared that all rights, actions, prosecutions, judgments, claims, and contracts, as well of individuals as of bodies cor-

porate, shall continue as if no such change had taken place, and all process which may be issued under the authority of the territory of Wisconsin, previous to its admission into the Union of the United States, shall be as valid as if issued in the name of the state.

2. All laws now in force in the territory of Wisconsin, which are not repugnant to this constitution, shall remain in force until they expire by their own limitation, or be altered or repealed by the legislature.

3. All fines, penalties, or forfeitures accruing to the territory of Wisconsin, shall enure to the use of the state.

4. All recognizances heretofore taken, or which may be taken before the change from a territorial to a permanent state government, shall remain valid, and shall pass to, and may be prosecuted in the name of the state; and all bonds executed to the governor of the territory, or to any other officer or court, in his or their official capacity, shall pass to the governor of the state authority, and their successors in office, for the uses therein respectively expressed, and may be sued for and recovered accordingly; and all the estate or property, real, personal, or mixed, and all judgments, bonds, specialties, choses in action, and claims or debts of whatsoever description, of the territory of Wisconsin, shall enure to and vest in the state of Wisconsin, and may be sued for and recovered in the same manner, and to the same extent, by the state of Wisconsin, as the same could have been by the territory of Wisconsin. All criminal prosecutions and penal actions which may have arisen, or which may arise before the change from a territorial to a state government, and which shall then be pending, shall be prosecuted to judgment and execution in the name of the state. All offences committed against the laws of the territory of Wisconsin, before the change from a territorial to a state government, and which shall not be prosecuted before such change, may be prosecuted in the name and by the authority of the state of Wisconsin, with like effect as though such change had not taken place; and all penalties incurred shall remain the same as if this constitution had not been adopted. All actions at law, and suits in equity, which may be pending in any of the courts of the territory of Wisconsin, at the time of the change from a territorial to a state government, may be continued and transferred to any court of the state which shall have jurisdiction of the subject matter thereof.

5. All officers, civil and military, now holding their offices under the authority of the United States, or of the territory of Wisconsin, shall continue to hold and exercise their respective offices until they shall be superseded by the authority of the state.

6. The first session of the legislature of the state of Wisconsin shall commence on the first Monday in June next, and shall be held at the village of Madison, which shall be and remain the seat of government until otherwise provided by law.

7. All county, precinct, and township officers, shall continue to hold their respective offices, unless removed by the competent authority, until the legislature shall in conformity with the provisions of this constitution provide for the holding of elections to fill such offices respectively.

8. The president of this convention shall, immediately after its adjournment, cause a fair copy of this constitution, together with a copy of the act of the legislature of this territory, entitled "An act in relation to the formation of a state government in Wisconsin, and to change the time of holding the annual session of the legislature," approved October 27th, 1847, providing for the calling of this convention, and also a copy of so much of the last census of this territory as exhibits the number of its inhabitants, to be forwarded to the President of the United States, to be laid before the congress of the United States at its present session.

9. This constitution shall be submitted at an election to be held on the second Monday in March next, for ratification or rejection, to all white male persons of the age of twenty-one years or upwards, who shall then be residents of this territory and citizens of the United States, or shall have declared their intention



to become such, in conformity with the laws of congress on the subject of naturalization; and all persons having such qualifications shall be entitled to vote for or against the adoption of this constitution, and for all officers first elected under it. And if the constitution be ratified by the said electors, it shall become the constitution of the state of Wisconsin. On such of the ballots as are for the constitution, shall be written or printed the word "yes;" and on such as are against the constitution the word "no." The election shall be conducted in the manner now prescribed by law, and the returns made by the clerks of the boards of supervisors or county commissioners (as the case may be) to the governor of the territory, at any time before the tenth day of April next. And in the event of the ratification of this constitution, by a majority of all the votes given, it shall be the duty of the governor of this territory to make proclamation of the same, and to transmit a digest of the returns to the senate and assembly of the state, on the first day of their session. An election shall be held for governor and lieutenant-governor, treasurer, attorney-general, members of the state legislature, and members of congress, on the second Monday of May next, and no other or further notice of such election shall be required.

10. Two members of congress shall also be elected on the second Monday of May next; and until otherwise provided by law, the counties of Milwaukie, Waukesha, Jefferson, Racine, Walworth, Rock, and Green, shall constitute the first congressional district, and elect one member; and the counties of Washington, Sheboygan, Manitowoc, Calumet, Brown, Winnebago, Fond du Lac, Marquette, Sauk, Portage, Columbia, Dodge, Dane, Iowa, La Fayette, Grant, Richland, Crawford, Chippewa, St. Croix, and La Pointe, shall constitute the second congressional district, and shall elect one member.

11. The several elections provided for in this article shall be conducted according to the existing laws of the territory. *Provided*, That no elector shall be entitled to vote except in the town, ward, or precinct where he resides. The returns of election for senators and members of assembly shall be transmitted to the clerk of the board of supervisors, or county commissioners, as the case may be, and the votes shall be canvassed, and certificates of election issued, as now provided by law. In the first senatorial district, the returns of the election for senator shall be made to the proper officer in the county of Brown. In the second senatorial district, to the proper officer in the county of Columbia. In the third senatorial district, to the proper officer in the county of Crawford. In the fourth senatorial district, to the proper officer in the county of Fond du Lac. And in the fifth senatorial district to the proper officer in the county of Iowa. The returns of election for state officers and members of congress shall be certified and transmitted to the speaker of the assembly at the seat of government, in the same manner as the votes for delegate to congress are required to be certified and returned by the laws of the territory of Wisconsin, to the secretary of said territory, and in such time that they may be received on the first Monday in June next; and as soon as the legislature shall be organized, the speaker of the assembly and the president of the senate shall, in the presence of both houses, examine the returns, and declare who are duly elected to fill the several offices hereinbefore mentioned, and give to each of the persons elected a certificate of his election.

12. Until there shall be a new apportionment, the senators and members of the assembly shall be apportioned among the several districts, as hereinafter mentioned, and each district shall be entitled to elect one senator or member of the assembly, as the case may be.

The counties of Brown, Calumet, Manitowoc, and Sheboygan, shall constitute the first senate district.

The counties of Columbia, Marquette, Portage, and Sauk, shall constitute the second senate district.

The counties of Crawford, Chippewa, St. Croix, and La Pointe, shall constitute the third senate district.

The counties of Fond du Lac, and Winnebago, shall constitute the fourth senate district.

The counties of Iowa and Richland, shall constitute the fifth senate district.

The county of Grant shall constitute the sixth senate district.

The county of La Fayette shall constitute the seventh senate district.

The county of Green shall constitute the eighth senate district.

The county of Dane shall constitute the ninth senate district.

The county of Dodge shall constitute the tenth senate district.

The county of Washington shall constitute the eleventh senate district.

The county of Jefferson shall constitute the twelfth senate district.

The county of Waukesha shall constitute the thirteenth senate district.

The county of Walworth shall constitute the fourteenth senate district.

The county of Rock shall constitute the fifteenth senate district.

The towns of Southport, Pike, Pleasant Prairie, Paris, Bristol, Brighton, Salem, and Wheatland, in the county of Racine, shall constitute the sixteenth senate district.

The towns of Racine, Caledonia, Mount Pleasant, Raymond, Norway, Rochester, Yorkville, and Burlington, in the county of Racine, shall constitute the seventeenth senate district.

The third, fourth, and fifth wards of the city of Milwaukee, and the towns of Lake, Oak Creek, Franklin, and Greenfield, in the county of Milwaukee, shall constitute the eighteenth senate district.

The first and second wards of the city of Milwaukee, and the towns of Milwaukee, Wauwatosa, and Granville, in the county of Milwaukee, shall constitute the nineteenth senate district.

The county of Brown shall constitute an assembly district.

The county of Calumet shall constitute an assembly district.

The county of Manitowoc shall constitute an assembly district.

The county of Columbia shall constitute an assembly district.

The counties of Crawford and Chippewa, shall constitute an assembly district.

The counties of St. Croix and La Pointe, shall constitute an assembly district.

The towns of Windsor, Sun Prairie, and Cottage Grove, in the county of Dane, shall constitute an assembly district.

The towns of Madison, Cross Plains, Clarkson, Springfield, Verona, Montrose, Oregon, and Greenfield, in the county of Dane, shall constitute an assembly district.

The towns of Rome, Dunkirk, Christiana, Albion, and Rutland, in the county of Dane, shall constitute an assembly district.

The towns of Burnett, Chester, Le Roy, and Williamstown, in the county of Dodge, shall constitute an assembly district.

The towns of Fairfield, Hubbard, and Rubicon, in the county of Dodge, shall constitute an assembly district.

The towns of Hustisford, Ashippun, Lebanon, and Emmet, in the county of Dodge, shall constitute an assembly district.

The towns of Elba, Lowell, Portland, and Clyman, in the county of Dodge, shall constitute an assembly district.

The towns of Calamus, Beaver Dam, Fox Lake, and Trenton, in the county of Dodge, shall constitute an assembly district.

The towns of Calumet, Forest, Auburn, Byron, Taychedah, and Fond du Lac, in the county of Fond du Lac, shall constitute an assembly district.

The towns of Alto, Metoman, Ceresco, Rosendale, Waupun, Oakfield, and Seven Mile Creek, in the county of Fond du Lac, shall constitute an assembly district.

The precincts of Hazel Green, Fairplay, Sineltzer's Grove, and Jamestown, in the county of Grant, shall constitute an assembly district.

The precincts of Plattville, Head of Platte, Centerville, Muscoday, and Fenimore, in the county of Grant, shall constitute an assembly district.

The precincts of Pleasant Valley, Potosi, Waterloo, Hurricane, and New Lisbon, in the county of Grant, shall constitute an assembly district.



The precincts of Beetown, Patch Grove, Cassville, Millville, and Lancaster, in the county of Grant, shall constitute an assembly district.

The county of Green shall constitute an assembly district.

The precincts of Dallas, Peddler's Creek, Mineral Point, and Yellow Stone, in the county of Iowa, shall constitute an assembly district.

The precincts of Franklin, Dodgeville, Porter's Grove, Arena, and Percussion, in the county of Iowa, and the county of Richland, shall constitute an assembly district.

The towns of Watertown, Aztalan, and Waterloo, in the county of Jefferson, shall constitute an assembly district.

The towns of Ixonia, Concord, Sullivan, Hebron, Cold Spring, and Palmyra, in the county of Jefferson, shall constitute an assembly district.

The towns of Lake Mills, Oakland, Koskonong, Farmington, and Jefferson, in the county of Jefferson, shall constitute an assembly district.

The precincts of Benton, Elk Grove, Belmont, Willow Springs, Prairie, and that part of Shullsburgh precinct north of town one, in the county of La Fayette, shall constitute an assembly district.

The precincts of Wiota, Wayne, Gratiot, White Oak Springs, Fever River, and that part of Shullsburgh precinct south of town two, in the county of La Fayette, shall constitute an assembly district.

The county of Marquette shall constitute an assembly district.

The first ward of the city of Milwaukee, shall constitute an assembly district.

The second ward of the city of Milwaukee, shall constitute an assembly district.

The third ward of the city of Milwaukee, shall constitute an assembly district.

The fourth and fifth wards of the city of Milwaukee, shall constitute an assembly district.

The towns of Franklin, and Oak Creek, in the county of Milwaukee, shall constitute an assembly district.

The towns of Greenfield, and Lake, in the county of Milwaukee, shall constitute an assembly district.

The towns of Granville, Wauwatosa, and Milwaukee, in the county of Milwaukee, shall constitute an assembly district.

The county of Portage shall constitute an assembly district.

The town of Racine, in the county of Racine, shall constitute an assembly district.

The towns of Norway, Raymond, Caledonia, and Mount Pleasant, in the county of Racine, shall constitute an assembly district.

The towns of Rochester, Burlington, and Yorkville, in the county of Racine, shall constitute an assembly district.

The towns of Southport, Pike, and Pleasant Prairie, in the county of Racine, shall constitute an assembly district.

The towns of Paris, Bristol, Brighton, Salem, and Wheatland, in the county of Racine, shall constitute an assembly district.

The towns of Janesville, and Bradford, in the county of Rock, shall constitute an assembly district.

The towns of Beloit, Turtle, and Clinton, in the county of Rock, shall constitute an assembly district.

The towns of Magnolia, Union, Porter, and Fulton, in the county of Rock, shall constitute an assembly district.

The towns of Milton, Lima, and Johnstown, in the county of Rock, shall constitute an assembly district.

The towns of Newark, Rock, Avon, Spring Valley, and Centre, in the county of Rock, shall constitute an assembly district: *Provided*, That if the legislature shall divide the town of Centre, they may attach such part of it to the district lying next north, as they may deem expedient.

The county of Sauk shall constitute an assembly district.

Precincts numbered one, three, and seven, in the county of Sheboygan, shall constitute an assembly district.

Precincts numbered two, four, five, and six, in the county of Sheboygan, shall constitute an assembly district.

The towns of Troy, East Troy, and Spring Prairie, in the county of Walworth, shall constitute an assembly district.

The towns of Whitewater, Richmond, and Lagrange, in the county of Walworth, shall constitute an assembly district.

The towns of Geneva, Hudson, and Bloomfield, in the county of Walworth, shall constitute an assembly district.

The towns of Darien, Sharon, Walworth, and Lynn, in the county of Walworth, shall constitute an assembly district.

The towns of Delavan, Sugar Creek, La Fayette, and Elkhorn, in the county of Walworth, shall constitute an assembly district.

The towns of Lisbon, Menomonee, and Brookfield, in the county of Waukesha, shall constitute an assembly district.

The towns of Warren, Oconomowoc, Summit, and Ottawa, in the county of Waukesha, shall constitute an assembly district.

The towns of Delafield, Genesee, and Pewaukee, in the county of Waukesha, shall constitute an assembly district.

The towns of Waukesha and New Berlin, in the county of Waukesha, shall constitute an assembly district.

The towns of Eagle, Mukwanago, Vernon, and Muskego, in the county of Waukesha, shall constitute an assembly district.

The towns of Port Washington, Fredonia, and Clarence, in the county of Washington, shall constitute an assembly district.

The towns of Grafton and Jackson, in the county of Washington, shall constitute an assembly district.

The towns of Mequon and Germantown, in the county of Washington, shall constitute an assembly district.

The towns of Polk, Richfield, and Erin, in the county of Washington, shall constitute an assembly district.

The towns of Hartford, Addison, West Bend, and North Bend, in the county of Washington, shall constitute an assembly district.

The county of Winnebago shall constitute an assembly district.

The foregoing districts are subject, however, so far to be altered that when any new town shall be organized, it may be added to either of the adjoining assembly districts.

13. Such parts of the common law as are now in force in the territory of Wisconsin, not inconsistent with this constitution, shall be and continue part of the law of this state, until altered or suspended by the legislature.

14. The senators first elected in the even numbered senate districts, the governor, lieutenant-governor, and other state officers first elected under this constitution, shall enter upon the duties of their respective offices on the first Monday of June next, and shall continue in office for one year from the first Monday of January next. The senators first elected in the odd numbered senate districts, and the members of the assembly first elected, shall enter upon their duties respectively on the first Monday of June next, and shall continue in office until the first Monday in January next.

15. The oath of office may be administered by any judge or justice of the peace, until the legislature shall otherwise direct.

#### RESOLUTIONS.

*Resolved*, That the congress of the United States be and is hereby requested, upon the application of Wisconsin for admission into the Union, so to alter the provisions of an act of congress entitled "an act to grant a quantity of land to the territory of Wisconsin for the purpose of aiding in opening a canal to connect the waters of lake Michigan with those of Rock river," approved June eighteenth,



eighteen hundred and thirty-eight; and so to alter the terms and conditions of the grant made therein, that the odd numbered sections thereby granted and remaining unsold, may be held and disposed of by the state of Wisconsin, as part of the five hundred thousand acres of land to which said state is entitled by the provisions of an act of congress, entitled "an act to appropriate the proceeds of the sales of the public lands, and to grant pre-emption rights," approved the fourth day of September, eighteen hundred and forty-one; and further, that the even numbered sections reserved by congress may be offered for sale by the United States for the same minimum price, and subject to the same rights of pre-emption as other public lands of the United States.

*Resolved*, That congress be further requested to pass an act whereby the excess price over and above one dollar and twenty-five cents per acre, which may have been paid by the purchasers of said even numbered sections which shall have been sold by the United States, be refunded to the present owners thereof, or they be allowed to enter any of the public lands of the United States, to an amount equal in value to the excess so paid.

*Resolved*, That in case the odd numbered sections shall be ceded to the state as aforesaid, the same shall be sold by the state in the same manner as other school lands: *Provided*, That the same rights of pre-emption as are now granted by the laws of the United States, shall be secured to persons who may be actually settled upon such lands at the time of the adoption of this constitution: *And provided further*, That the excess price over and above one dollar and twenty-five cents per acre, absolutely or conditionally contracted to be paid by the purchasers of any part of said sections which shall have been sold by the territory of Wisconsin, shall be remitted to such purchasers, their representatives, or assigns.

*Resolved*, That congress be requested, upon the application of Wisconsin for admission into the Union, to pass an act whereby the grant of five hundred thousand acres of land, to which the state of Wisconsin is entitled by the provisions of an act of congress entitled "an act to appropriate the proceeds of the sales of the public lands, and to grant pre-emption rights," approved the fourth day of September, eighteen hundred and forty-one, and also the five per centum of the nett proceeds of the public lands lying within the state, to which it shall become entitled on its admission into the Union, by the provisions of an act of congress, entitled "an act to enable the people of Wisconsin territory to form a constitution and state government, and for the admission of such state into the Union," approved the sixth day of August, eighteen hundred and forty-six, shall be granted to the state of Wisconsin for the use of schools, instead of the purposes mentioned in said acts of congress respectively.

*Resolved*, That the congress of the United States be, and hereby is, requested, upon the admission of this state into the Union, so to alter the provisions of the act of congress, entitled "an act to grant a certain quantity of land to aid in the improvement of the Fox and Wisconsin rivers, and to connect the same by a canal in the territory of Wisconsin," that the price of the lands reserved to the United States shall be reduced to the minimum price of the public lands.

*Resolved*, That the legislature of this state shall make provision by law for the sale of the lands granted to the state in aid of said improvements, subject to the same rights of pre-emption to the settlers thereon, as are now allowed by law to settlers on the public lands.

*Resolved*, That the foregoing resolutions be appended to and signed with the constitution of Wisconsin, and submitted therewith to the people of this territory, and to the congress of the United States.

In testimony whereof we have hereunto set our hands, at Madison, the first day of February, A. D. eighteen hundred and forty eight.

MORGAN L. MARTIN, *President*.

THOMAS McHUGH, *Secretary*.

## CALIFORNIA.



THIS country, during the Spanish rule, constituted a part of the viceroyalty of Mexico, or New Spain. When Mexico became a federal republic, not finding California sufficiently populous to form a state, she established over it a territorial government, of which Los Angeles and Monterey were the seats.

A few years since the country between the Rocky Mountains and the Pacific was unknown; except in some parts of Oregon, which had been laid open by the discoveries of Capt. Grey, in 1792, and by the explorations of Lewis and Clarke, in 1803.

The American government, in 1838, sent out a naval Exploring Expedition, under Captain Charles Wilkes, who was directed to make surveys of the coasts of Oregon and California, with special reference to the bay of San Francisco. He pronounced the harbor of San Francisco to be "one of the finest, if not the very best in the world." The town, then called Yerba Buena, "consisted of one large frame building, occupied by the Hudson Bay Company; the store of an American merchant, a billiard-room, and a bar; a cabin of a ship, occupied as a dwelling;—besides out-houses, few and far between."

The most prominent man in the region was Capt. Sutter, a Swiss by birth, but immigrating from Missouri. Having obtained from Mexico a grant of land thirty leagues square, he located his residence within it, and built a fort at the confluence of the American river with the Sacramento, near the place since called Sacramento City. Capt. Wilkes reported well of the soil and productiveness of the country. He related a recent military contest, in which the scale was turned by the valor of twenty-five American hunters.

Mr. Polk came into the presidency with a war upon his hands. He doubtless intended so to conduct it that it should redound to the honor and advantage of his country; being early determined to obtain California and New Mexico. But a project was on foot to place California beyond the reach of the American government, and under the protection of the British. This was in part to be effected through the agency of Macnamara, an Irish priest, who, before the beginning of the war, visited the city of Mexico, and obtained grants of some of the best ports and most fertile lands of California. Capt. Fremont was sent overland, early in the spring of 1845, to California, ostensibly for scientific exploration, with 63 men,



composed of the famous and noble hunter and guide, Kit Carson, and others like him, ready, with sinews of steel, to do or to dare;—furnished with artillery, and armed with Colt's revolvers. If Mr. Polk's object was to counterwork the British plot, his measures and agents were well chosen, and his plans completely successful.

The Mexican treaty, signed at Gaudalupe Hidalgo, Feb. 2, 1848, added to the American Republic vast tracts, of which the California portion had a framework of society adverse to our own, many patriots looked with apprehension for the result, knowing that ordinarily the full river keeps the course first taken by the rivulet. Would enough of our citizens go thither to turn this course—to fuse this portion into the common mass? Providence presented a material to draw them so quickly, and in such ample numbers, that they at once constituted the principal stream of Californian society, into which all minor currents, not excepting the original, were merged; and GOLD, the curse of other lands, was a blessing to this.

In February, 1848, a private discovery of gold was made on the grounds of Capt. Sutter, by a Mr. Marshall, then in his employ, twenty-five miles up the American Fork of the Sacramento. It was soon found in other localities. Rumors of California gold reached the Atlantic States, which were converted to certainty by the President's message of December, 1849, accompanied by a letter from Gov. Mason, who had been in person to visit the gold "diggings." As he passed along, he found houses deserted, and fields of wheat going to ruin; their owners having left them to dig for gold. Such had been the quantities found, that every convenience of life bore an enormous price. Capt. Sutter paid his blacksmith ten dollars per day; and he received five hundred dollars per month for the rent of a two-story house within his fort. Gov. Mason followed up the American to the sawmill, in whose raceway the golden scales were first discovered. He visited other "placers," and saw multitudes engaged in the beds of streams, and in dry ravines, where water-courses had once existed. In a little gutter two men had found the value of seventeen thousand dollars. The ordinary yield for a day's work was two ounces.

Such were the facts reported from unquestionable sources; and California at once became the one luminous point, to which all eyes were directed. There was a rush for the land of gold, not only from the United States, but from Europe, Asia, South America, and the isles of the sea.

From December, 1849, to January, 1850, 99 vessels from the United States. 52 from New York; 29 from New England. From October, 1849, to October, 1850, one year, arrived at San Francisco, 48,615 immigrants by sea, and 33,000 by land.

The 13th of October, 1849, will be memorable in the annals of California. On that day the members of the Convention elected to draft a constitution set their signatures to this noble instrument. The President of this body was Robert Semple, a native of Kentucky; the Secretary, Wm. G. Marcy, of New York.

The constitution was adopted by the people Nov. 13, 1849. Population, in 1850, 200,000.

## CONSTITUTION.

### ARTICLE I.—*Declaration of Rights.*

SEC. 1. All men are by nature free and independent, and have certain inalienable rights, among which are those of enjoying and defending life and liberty, acquiring, possessing, and protecting property, and pursuing and obtaining safety and happiness.

2. All political power is inherent in the people. Government is

instituted for the protection, security, and benefit of the people; and they have the right to alter or reform the same whenever the public good may require it.

3. The right of trial by jury shall be secured to all, and remain inviolate forever; but a trial by jury may be waived by the parties in all civil cases, in the manner to be prescribed by law.

4. The free exercise and enjoyment of religious profession and worship, without discrimination or preference, shall forever be allowed in this State: and no person shall be rendered incompetent to be a witness on account of his opinions on matters of religious belief; but the liberty of conscience hereby secured shall not be so construed as to excuse acts of licentiousness, or justify practices inconsistent with the peace or safety of this State.

5. The privilege of the writ of habeas corpus shall not be suspended, unless when, in cases of rebellion or invasion, the public safety may require its suspension.

6. Excessive bail shall not be required, nor excessive fines imposed, nor shall cruel or unusual punishments be inflicted, nor shall witnesses be unreasonably detained.

7. All persons shall be bailable by sufficient sureties, unless for capital offences, when the proof is evident or the presumption great.

8. No person shall be held to answer for a capital or otherwise infamous crime (except in cases of impeachment, and in cases of militia when in actual service, and the land and naval forces in time of war, or which this State may keep with the consent of Congress in time of peace, and in cases of petit larceny under the regulation of the Legislature), unless on presentment or indictment of a grand jury; and in any trial in any court whatever, the party accused shall be allowed to appear and defend in person and with counsel, as in civil actions. No person shall be subject to be twice put in jeopardy for the same offence; nor shall he be compelled, in any criminal case, to be a witness against himself, nor be deprived of life, liberty, or property, without due process of law; nor shall private property be taken for public use without just compensation.

9. Every citizen may freely speak, write, and publish his sentiments on all subjects, being responsible for the abuse of that right; and no law shall be passed to restrain or abridge the liberty of speech or of the press. In all criminal prosecutions on indictments for libels, the truth may be given in evidence to the jury; and if it shall appear to the jury that the matter charged as libellous is true, and was published with good motives and for justifiable ends, the party shall be acquitted; and the jury shall have the right to determine the law and the fact.

10. The people shall have the right freely to assemble together to consult for the common good, to instruct their representatives, and to petition the Legislature for redress of grievances.

11. All laws of a general nature shall have a uniform operation.

12. The military shall be subordinate to the civil power. No



standing army shall be kept up by this State in time of peace ; and in time of war no appropriation for a standing army shall be for a longer time than two years.

13. No soldier shall in time of peace be quartered in any house without the consent of the owner ; nor in time of war, except in the manner to be prescribed by law.

14. Representation shall be apportioned according to population.

15. No person shall be imprisoned for debt in any civil action on mesne or final process, unless in cases of fraud ; and no person shall be imprisoned for a militia fine in time of peace.

16. No bill of attainder, *ex post facto* law, or law impairing the obligation of contracts, shall ever be passed.

17. Foreigners who are, or who may hereafter become *bona fide* residents of this State, shall enjoy the same rights in respect to the possession, enjoyment, and inheritance of property, as native born citizens.

18. Neither slavery nor involuntary servitude, unless for the punishment of crimes, shall ever be tolerated in this State.

19. The right of the people to be secure in their persons, houses, papers and effects, against unreasonable seizures and searches, shall not be violated ; and no warrant shall issue but on probable cause, supported by oath or affirmation, particularly describing the place to be searched, and the persons and things to be seized.

20. Treason against the State shall consist only in levying war against it, adhering to its enemies, or giving them aid and comfort. No person shall be convicted of treason unless on the evidence of two witnesses to the same overt act, or confession in open court.

21. This enumeration of rights shall not be construed to impair or deny others retained by the people.

## ARTICLE II.—*Right of Suffrage.*

SEC. 1. Every white male citizen of the United States, and every white male citizen of Mexico, who shall have elected to become a citizen of the United States, under the treaty of peace exchanged and ratified at Queretaro, on the 30th day of May, 1848, of the age of twenty-one years, who shall have been a resident of the State six months next preceding the election, and the county or district in which he claims his vote thirty days, shall be entitled to vote at all elections which are now or hereafter may be authorized by law : Provided that nothing herein contained shall be construed to prevent the Legislature, by a two-thirds concurrent vote, from admitting to the right of suffrage Indians or the descendants of Indians, in such special cases as such a proportion of the legislative body may deem just and proper.

2. Electors shall, in all cases except treason, felony, or breach of the peace, be privileged from arrest on the days of the election, during their attendance at such election, going to and returning therefrom.

3. No elector shall be obliged to perform militia duty on the day of election, except in time of war or public danger.

4. For the purpose of voting, no person shall be deemed to have gained or lost a residence by reason of his presence or absence while employed in the service of the United States; nor while engaged in the navigation of the waters of this State, or of the United States, or of the high seas; nor while a student of any seminary of learning; nor while kept at any almshouse or other asylum at public expense; nor while confined in any public prison.

5. No idiot or insane person, or person convicted of any infamous crime, shall be entitled to the privileges of an elector.

6. All elections by the people shall be by ballot.

### ARTICLE III.—*Distribution of Powers.*

The powers of the government of the State of California shall be divided into three separate departments—the Legislative, the Executive, and Judicial; and no person charged with the exercise of powers properly belonging to one of these departments, shall exercise any functions appertaining to either of the others, except in the cases hereinafter expressly directed or permitted.

### ARTICLE IV.—*Legislative Department.*

SEC. 1. The legislative power of this State shall be vested in a Senate and Assembly, which shall be designated the Legislature of the State of California, and the enacting clause of every law shall be as follows: "The people of the State of California, represented in Senate and Assembly, do enact as follows."

2. The sessions of the Legislature shall be annual, and shall commence on the first Monday of January next ensuing the election of its members, unless the governor of the State shall in the interim convene the Legislature by proclamation.

3. The members of the Assembly shall be chosen annually, by the qualified voters of their respective districts, on the Tuesday next after the first Monday in November, unless otherwise ordered by the Legislature, and their term of office shall be one year.

4. Senators and members of Assembly shall be duly qualified electors in the respective counties and districts which they represent.

5. Senators shall be chosen for the term of two years, at the same time and places as members of Assembly; and no person shall be a member of the Senate or Assembly who has not been a citizen and inhabitant of the State one year, and of the county or district for which he shall be chosen six months next before his election.

6. The number of senators shall not be less than one-third, nor more than one-half of that of the members of Assembly; and at the first session of the Legislature after this constitution takes effect, the senators shall be divided by lot as equally as may be, into two



classes; the seats of the senators of the first class shall be vacated at the expiration of the first year, so that one-half shall be chosen annually.

7. When the number of senators is increased, they shall be apportioned by lot, so as to keep the two classes as nearly equal in number as possible.

8. Each house shall choose its own officers and judge of the qualifications, elections, and returns of its own members.

9. A majority of each house shall constitute a quorum to do business; but a smaller number may adjourn from day to day, and may compel the attendance of absent members, in such manner, and under such penalties, as each house may provide.

10. Each house shall determine the rules of its own proceedings, and may, with the concurrence of two-thirds of all the members elected, expel a member.

11. Each house shall keep a journal of its own proceedings, and publish the same; and the yeas and nays of the members of either house on any question shall, at the desire of any three members present, be entered on the journal.

12. Members of the Legislature shall, in all cases except treason, felony, and breach of the peace, be privileged from arrest, and they shall not be subject to any civil process during the session of the Legislature, nor for fifteen days next before the commencement and after the termination of each session.

13. When vacancies occur in either house, the governor, or the person exercising the functions of the governor, shall issue writs of election to fill such vacancies.

14. The doors of each house shall be open, except on such occasions as in the opinion of the house may require secrecy.

15. Neither house shall without the consent of the other adjourn for more than three days, nor to any other place than that in which they may be sitting.

16. Any bill may originate in either house of the Legislature, and all bills passed by one house may be amended in the other.

17. Every bill which may have passed the Legislature shall before it becomes a law be presented to the governor. If he approve it he shall sign it, but if not he shall return it, with his objections, to the house in which it originated, which shall enter the same upon the journal, and proceed to reconsider it. If after such reconsideration it again pass both houses by yeas and nays, by a majority of two-thirds of the members of each house present, it shall become a law, notwithstanding the governor's objections. If any bill shall not be returned within ten days after it shall have been presented to him (Sunday excepted), the same shall be a law, in like manner as if he had signed it, unless the Legislature by adjournment prevent such return.

18. The Assembly shall have the sole power of impeachment; and all impeachments shall be tried by the Senate. When sitting

for that purpose, the senators shall be upon oath or affirmation; and no person shall be convicted without the concurrence of two-thirds of the members present.

19. The governor, lieutenant governor, secretary of state, comptroller, treasurer, attorney-general, surveyor-general, justices of the supreme court, and judges of the district courts, shall be liable to impeachment for any misdemeanor in office; but judgment in such cases shall extend only to removal from office, and disqualification to hold any office of honor, trust, or profit, under the State; but the party convicted or acquitted shall nevertheless be liable to indictment, trial and punishment, according to law. All other civil officers shall be tried for misdemeanors in office in such manner as the Legislature may provide.

20. No senator or member of Assembly shall, during the term for which he shall have been elected, be appointed to any civil office of profit under this State, which shall have been created, or the emoluments of which shall have been increased, during such term, except such office as may be filled by elections by the people.

21. No person holding any lucrative office under the United States, or any other power, shall be eligible to any civil office of profit under this State: provided, that officers in the militia, to which there is attached no annual salary, or local officers and postmasters whose compensation does not exceed five hundred dollars per annum, shall not be deemed lucrative.

22. No person who shall be convicted of the embezzlement or defalcation of the public funds of this State, shall ever be eligible to any office of honor, trust or profit, under this State; and the Legislature shall, as soon as practicable, pass a law providing for the punishment of such embezzlement or defalcation as a felony.

23. No money shall be drawn from the treasury but in consequence of appropriations made by law. An accurate statement of the receipts and expenditures of the public moneys shall be attached to, and published with the laws at every regular session of the Legislature.

24. The members of the Legislature shall receive for their services a compensation to be fixed by law, and paid out of the public treasury; but no increase of the compensation shall take effect during the term for which the members of either house shall have been elected.

25. Every law enacted by the Legislature shall embrace but one object, and that shall be expressed in the title; and no law shall be revised or amended by reference to its title; but in such case, the act revised, or section amended, shall be re-enacted and published at length.

26. No divorce shall be granted by the Legislature.

27. No lottery shall be authorized by this State, nor shall the sale of lottery tickets be allowed.

28. The enumeration of the inhabitants of this State shall be taken,



under the direction of the Legislature, in the year one thousand eight hundred and fifty-two, and one thousand eight hundred and fifty-five, and at the end of every ten years thereafter; and these enumerations, together with the census that may be taken under the direction of the Congress of the United States, in the year one thousand eight hundred and fifty, and every subsequent ten years, shall serve as the basis of representation in both houses of the Legislature.

29. The number of senators and members of Assembly shall, at the first session of the Legislature holden after the enumerations herein provided for are made, be fixed by the Legislature, and apportioned among the several counties and districts to be established by law, according to the number of white inhabitants. The number of members of Assembly shall not be less than twenty-four, nor more than thirty-six, until the number of inhabitants within this State shall amount to one hundred thousand; and after that period, at such ratio that the whole number of members of Assembly shall never be less than thirty, nor more than eighty.

30. When a congressional, senatorial, or assembly district, shall be composed of two or more counties, it shall not be separated by any county belonging to another district; and no county shall be divided, in forming a congressional, senatorial, or assembly district.

31. Corporations may be formed under general laws, but shall not be created by special act, except for municipal purposes. All general laws and special acts passed pursuant to this section may be altered from time to time, or repealed.

32. Dues from corporations shall be secured by such individual liability of the corporators, and other means, as may be prescribed by law.

33. The term corporations as used in this article shall be construed to include all associations and joint stock companies having any of the powers or privileges of corporations not possessed by individuals or partnerships. And all corporations shall have the right to sue, and shall be subject to be sued, in all courts in like cases as natural persons.

34. The Legislature shall have no power to pass any act granting any charter for banking purposes; but associations may be formed under general laws for the deposit of gold and silver, but no such association shall make, issue, or put in circulation, any bill, check, ticket, certificate, promissory note, or other paper, or the paper of any bank, to circulate as money.

35. The Legislature of this State shall prohibit by law, any person or persons, association, company, or corporation, from exercising the privileges of banking, or creating paper to circulate as money.

36. Each stockholder of a corporation, or joint stock association, shall be individually and personally liable for his proportion of all its debts and liabilities.

37. It shall be the duty of the Legislature to provide for the organization of cities and incorporated villages, and to restrict their power of taxation, assessment, borrowing money, contracting debts, and loaning their credit, so as to prevent abuses in assessments and in contracting debts by such municipal corporations.

38. In all elections by the Legislature, the members thereof shall vote *viva voce*, and the votes shall be entered on the journal.

#### ARTICLE V.—*Executive Department.*

SEC. 1. The supreme executive power of this State shall be vested in a chief magistrate, who shall be styled the governor of the State of California.

2. The governor shall be elected by the qualified electors, at the time and places of voting for members of Assembly, and shall hold his office two years from the time of his installation, and until his successor shall be qualified.

3. No person shall be eligible to the office of governor (except at the first election), who has not been a citizen of the United States, and a resident of this State two years next preceding the election, and attained the age of twenty-five years at the time of said election.

4. The returns of every election for governor shall be sealed up and transmitted to the seat of government, directed to the speaker of the Assembly, who shall, during the first week of the session, open and publish them in presence of both houses of the Legislature. The person having the highest number of votes shall be governor; but in case any two or more have an equal and the highest number of votes, the Legislature shall, by joint vote of both houses, choose one of said persons, so having an equal and the highest number of votes, for governor.

5. The governor shall be commander-in-chief of the militia, the army and navy of this State.

6. He shall transact all executive business with the officers of government, civil and military, and may require information in writing from the officers of the executive department, upon any subject relating to the duties of their respective offices.

7. He shall see that the laws are faithfully executed.

8. When any office shall from any cause become vacant, and no mode is provided by the constitution and laws for filling such vacancy, the governor shall have power to fill such vacancy by granting a commission, which shall expire at the end of the next session of the Legislature, or at the next election by the people.

9. He may, on extraordinary occasions, convene the Legislature by proclamation, and shall state to both houses when assembled the purpose for which they shall have been convened.

10. He shall communicate by message to the Legislature at every session the condition of the State, and recommend such matters as he shall deem expedient.



11. In case of a disagreement between the two houses, with respect to the time of adjournment, the governor shall have power to adjourn the Legislature to such time as he may think proper: provided it be not beyond the time fixed for the meeting of the next Legislature.

12. No person shall, while holding any office under the United States or this State, exercise the office of governor, except as hereinafter expressly provided.

13. The governor shall have the power to grant reprieves and pardons after conviction, for all offences except treason and cases of impeachment, upon such conditions, and with such restrictions and limitations as he may think proper, subject to such regulations as may be provided by law relative to the manner of applying for pardons. Upon conviction for treason he shall have the power to suspend the execution of the sentence until the case shall be reported to the Legislature at its next meeting, when the Legislature shall either pardon, direct the execution of the sentence, or grant a further reprieve. He shall communicate to the Legislature, at the beginning of every session, every case of reprieve or pardon granted, stating the name of the convict, the crime of which he was convicted, the sentence, at its date, and the date of the pardon or reprieve.

14. There shall be a seal of this State, which shall be kept by the governor, and used by him officially, and shall be called "The great seal of the State of California."

15. All grants and commissions shall be in the name and by the authority of the people of the State of California, sealed with the great seal of the State, signed by the governor, and countersigned by the secretary of state.

16. A lieutenant governor shall be elected at the same time and places, and in the same manner as the governor; and his term of office, and his qualifications of eligibility, shall also be the same. He shall be president of the Senate, but shall only have a casting vote therein. If during a vacancy of the office of governor the lieutenant governor shall be impeached, displaced, resign, die, or become incapable of performing the duties of his office, or be absent from the State, the president of the Senate shall act as governor until the vacancy be filled, or the disability shall cease.

17. In case of the impeachment of the governor, or his removal from office, death, inability to discharge the powers and duties of the said office, resignation, or absence from the State, the powers and duties of the office shall devolve upon the lieutenant governor for the residue of the term, or until the disability shall cease. But when the governor shall, with the consent of the Legislature, be out of the State in time of war, and at the head of any military force thereof, he shall continue commander-in-chief of the military force of the State.

18. A secretary of state, a comptroller, a treasurer, an attorney-

general, and surveyor-general, shall be chosen in the manner provided in this constitution; and the term of office and eligibility of each shall be the same as are prescribed for the governor and lieutenant governor.

19. The secretary of state shall be appointed by the governor, by and with the advice and consent of the Senate. He shall keep a fair record of the official acts of the legislative and executive departments of the government, and shall, when required, lay the same, and all matters relative thereto, before either branch of the Legislature; and shall perform such other duties as shall be assigned him by law.

20. The comptroller, treasurer, attorney-general and surveyor-general, shall be chosen by joint vote of the two houses of the Legislature, at their first session under this constitution, and thereafter shall be elected at the same time and places, and in the same manner, as the governor and lieutenant governor.

21. The governor, lieutenant governor, secretary of state, comptroller, treasurer, attorney-general, and surveyor-general, shall each, at stated times during their continuance in office, receive for their services a compensation, which shall not be increased or diminished during the term for which they shall have been elected; but neither of these officers shall receive for his own use any fees for the performance of his official duties.

#### ARTICLE VI.—*Judicial Department.*

SEC. 1. The judicial power of this State shall be vested in a supreme court, in district courts, in county courts, and in justices of the peace. The Legislature may also establish such municipal and other inferior courts as may be deemed necessary.

2. The supreme court shall consist of a chief justice and two associate justices, any two of whom shall constitute a quorum.

3. The justices of the supreme court shall be elected at the general election by the qualified electors of the State, and shall hold their office for the term of six years from the first day of January next after their election; provided that the Legislature shall, at its first meeting, elect a chief justice and two associate justices of the supreme court, by joint vote of both houses, and so classify them that one shall go out of office every two years. After the first election the senior justice in commission shall be the chief justice.

4. The supreme court shall have appellate jurisdiction in all cases when the matter in dispute exceeds two hundred dollars, when the legality of any tax, toll, or impost or municipal fine is in question, and in all criminal cases amounting to felony or questions of law alone. And the said court, and each of the justices thereof, as well as all district and county judges, shall have power to issue writs of habeas corpus at the instance of any person held in actual custody. They shall also have power to issue all other writs and process



necessary to the exercise of their appellate jurisdiction, and shall be conservators of the peace throughout the State.

5. The State shall be divided by the first Legislature into a convenient number of districts, subject to such alteration from time to time as the public good may require, for each of which a district judge shall be appointed by the joint vote of the Legislature, at its first meeting, who shall hold his office for two years from the first day of January next after his election; after which said judges shall be elected by the qualified electors of their respective districts, at the general election, and shall hold their office for the term of six years.

6. The district courts shall have original jurisdiction in law and equity in all civil cases where the amount in dispute exceeds two hundred dollars, exclusive of interest. In all criminal cases not otherwise provided for, and in all issues of fact joined in the probate courts, their jurisdiction shall be unlimited.

7. The Legislature shall provide for the election by the people of a clerk of the supreme court, and county clerks, district attorneys, sheriffs, coroners, and other necessary officers; and shall fix by law their duties and compensation. County clerks shall be, *ex-officio*, clerks of the district courts in and for their respective counties.

8. There shall be elected in each of the organized counties of this State, one county judge, who shall hold his office for four years. He shall hold the county court, and perform the duties of surrogate, or probate judge. The county judge, with two justices of the peace, to be designated according to law, shall hold courts of sessions, with such criminal jurisdiction as the Legislature shall prescribe, and he shall perform such other duties as shall be required by law.

9. The county courts shall have such jurisdiction, in cases arising in justices' courts, and in special cases, as the Legislature may prescribe, but shall have no original civil jurisdiction except in such special cases.

10. The times and places of holding the terms of the supreme court, and the general and special terms of the district courts within the several districts, shall be provided for by law.

11. No judicial officer, except a justice of the peace, shall receive to his own use any fees or perquisites of office.

12. The Legislature shall provide for the speedy publication of all statute laws, and of such judicial decisions as it may deem expedient; and all laws and judicial decisions shall be free for publication by any person.

13. Tribunals for conciliation may be established, with such powers and duties as may be prescribed by law; but such tribunals shall have no power to render judgment to be obligatory on the parties, except they voluntarily submit their matters in difference, and

agree to abide the judgment, or assent thereto in the presence of such tribunal, in such cases as shall be prescribed by law.

14. The Legislature shall determine the number of justices of the peace to be elected in each county, city, town, and incorporated village of the State, and fix by law their powers, duties, and responsibilities. It shall also determine in what cases appeals may be made from justices' courts to the county court.

15. The justices of the supreme court, and judges of the district court, shall severally, at stated times during their continuance in office, receive for their services a compensation, to be paid out of the treasury, which shall not be increased or diminished during the term for which they shall have been elected. The county judges shall also severally, at stated times, receive for their services a compensation to be paid out of the county treasury of their respective counties, which shall not be increased or diminished during the term for which they shall have been elected.

16. The justices of the supreme court and district judges shall be ineligible to any other office during the term for which they shall have been elected.

17. Judges shall not charge juries with respect to matters of fact, but may state the testimony and declare the law.

18. The style of all process shall be, "The People of the State of California;" and all prosecutions shall be conducted in the name and by the authority of the same.

#### ARTICLE VII.—*Militia.*

SEC. 1. The Legislature shall provide by law for organizing and disciplining the militia, in such manner as they shall deem expedient; not incompatible with the constitution and laws of the United States.

2. Officers of the militia shall be elected or appointed, in such a manner as the Legislature shall from time to time direct, and shall be commissioned by the governor.

3. The governor shall have power to call forth the militia, to execute the laws of the State, to suppress insurrections, and repel invasions.

#### ARTICLE VIII.—*State Debts.*

The Legislature shall not in any manner create any debt or debts, liability or liabilities, which shall singly or in the aggregate, with any previous debts or liabilities, exceed the sum of three hundred thousand dollars, except in case of war, to repel invasion or suppress insurrection, unless the same shall be authorized by some law for some single object or work, to be distinctly specified therein, which law shall provide ways and means, exclusive of loans, for the payment of the interest of such debt or liability as it falls due, and also to pay and discharge the principal of such debt or liability within twenty years from the time of the contracting thereof, and shall be



irrepealable until the principal and interest thereon shall be paid and discharged; but no such law shall take effect until, at a general election, it shall have been submitted to the people, and have received a majority of all the votes cast for and against it at such election; and all money raised by authority of such law shall be applied only to the specific object therein stated, or to the payment of the debt thereby created; and such law shall be published in at least one newspaper in each judicial district, if one be published therein, throughout the State, for three months next preceding the election at which it is submitted to the people.

#### ARTICLE IX.—*Education.*

SEC. 1. The Legislature shall provide for the election by the people of a superintendent of public instruction, who shall hold his office for three years, and whose duties shall be prescribed by law, and who shall receive such compensation as the Legislature may direct.

2. The Legislature shall encourage by all suitable means the promotion of intellectual, scientific, moral, and agricultural improvement. The proceeds of all land that may be granted by the United States to this State for the support of schools, which may be sold or disposed of, and the five hundred thousand acres of land granted to the new States, under an act of Congress, distributing the proceeds of the public lands among the several States of the Union, approved A. D. 1841; and all estates of deceased persons who may have died without leaving a will, or heir, and also such per cent. as may be granted by Congress on the sale of lands in this State, shall be and remain a perpetual fund, the interest of which, together with all the rents of the unsold lands, and such other means as the Legislature may provide, shall be inviolably appropriated to the support of common schools throughout the State.

3. The Legislature shall provide for a system of common schools, by which a school shall be kept up and supported in each district at least three months in every year, and any school district neglecting to keep up and support such a school, may be deprived of its proportion of the interest of the public fund during such neglect.

4. The Legislature shall take measures for the protection, improvement, or other disposition of such lands as have been, or may hereafter be reserved or granted by the United States, or any person or persons, to the State for the use of a university; and the funds accruing from the rents or sale of such lands, or from any other source for the purpose aforesaid, shall be and remain a permanent fund, the interest of which shall be applied to the support of said university, with such branches as the public convenience may demand, for the promotion of literature, the arts and sciences, as may be authorized by the terms of such grant. And it shall be the duty of the Legislature, as soon as may be, to provide effectual

means for the improvement and permanent security of the funds of said university.

ARTICLE X.—*Mode of Amending and Revising the Constitution.*

SEC. 1. Any amendment or amendments to this constitution may be proposed in the Senate or Assembly; and if the same shall be agreed to by a majority of the members elected to each of the two houses, such proposed amendment or amendments shall be entered on their journals, with the yeas and nays taken thereon, and referred to the Legislature then next to be chosen, and shall be published for three months next preceding the time of making such choice. And if, in the Legislature next chosen as aforesaid, such proposed amendment or amendments shall be agreed to by a majority of all the members elected to each house, then it shall be the duty of the Legislature to submit such proposed amendment or amendments to the people in such manner and at such time as the Legislature shall prescribe; and if the people shall approve and ratify such amendment or amendments by a majority of the electors qualified to vote for members of the Legislature, voting thereon, such amendment or amendments shall become part of the constitution.

2. And if at any time two-thirds of the Senate and Assembly shall think it necessary to revise or change this entire constitution, they shall recommend to the electors, at the next election for members of the Legislature, to vote for or against the convention; and if it shall appear that a majority of the electors voting at such election have voted in favor of calling a convention, the Legislature shall at its next session provide by law for calling a convention, to be holden within six months after the passage of such law; and such convention shall consist of a number of members not less than that of both branches of the Legislature.

The Constitution that may have been agreed upon and adopted by such Convention, shall be submitted to the people, at a special election, to be provided for by law, for their ratification or rejection. Each voter shall express his opinion by depositing in the ballot-box a ticket, whereon shall be written or printed the words: "For the new Constitution," or, "Against the new Constitution." The returns of such election shall, in such manner as the Convention shall direct, be certified to the Executive of the State, who shall call to his assistance the Comptroller, Treasurer, and Secretary of State, and compare the votes so certified to him. If, by such examination, it be ascertained that a majority of the whole number of votes cast at such election, be in favor of such new Constitution, the Executive of this State shall, by his proclamation, declare such new Constitution to be the Constitution of the State of California.\*

ARTICLE XI.—*Miscellaneous Provisions.*

SEC. 1. The first session of the Legislature shall be held at the

\* Amendment ratified by the people, 1856.



Pueblo de San Jose, which place shall be the permanent seat of government until removed by law: *Provided*, however, that two-thirds of all the members elected to each house of the Legislature shall concur in the passage of such law.

2. Any citizen of this State who shall, after the adoption of this Constitution, fight a duel with deadly weapons, or send or accept a challenge to fight a duel with deadly weapons, either within this State or out of it; or who shall act as second, or knowingly aid or assist in any manner those thus offending, shall not be allowed to hold any office of profit, or to enjoy the right of suffrage under this Constitution.

3. Members of the Legislature, and all officers, executive and judicial, except such inferior officers as may be by law exempted, shall, before they enter on the duties of their respective offices, take and subscribe the following oath or affirmation:

"I do solemnly swear (or affirm, as the case may be,) that I will support the Constitution of the United States, and the Constitution of the State of California, and that I will faithfully discharge the duties of the office of ———, according to the best of my ability."

And no other oath, declaration or test, shall be required as a qualification for any office or public trust.

4. The Legislature shall establish a system of county and town governments, which shall be as nearly uniform as practicable throughout the State.

5. The Legislature shall have power to provide for the election of a board of supervisors in each county; and these supervisors shall jointly and individually perform such duties as may be prescribed by law.

6. All officers whose election or appointment is not provided for by this Constitution, and all officers whose offices may hereafter be created by law, shall be elected by the people, or appointed as the Legislature may direct.

7. When the duration of any office is not provided for by this Constitution, it may be declared by law, and if not so declared, such office shall be held during the pleasure of the authority making the appointment; nor shall the duration of any office not fixed by this Constitution ever exceed four years.

8. The fiscal year shall commence on the first day of July.

9. Each county, town, city, and incorporated village, shall make provision for the support of its own officers, subject to such restrictions and regulations as the Legislature may prescribe.

10. The credit of the State shall not in any manner be given or loaned to, or in aid of any individual, association, or corporation; nor shall the State directly or indirectly become a stockholder in any association or corporation.

11. Suits may be brought against the State in such manner, and in such courts, as shall be directed by law.

12. No contract of marriage, if otherwise duly made, shall be invalidated for want of conformity to the requirements of any religious sect.

13. Taxation shall be equal and uniform throughout the State.

All property in this State shall be taxed in proportion to its value, to be ascertained as directed by law ; but assessors and collectors of town, county and State taxes, shall be elected by the qualified electors of the district, county or town, in which the property taxed for State, county, or town purposes, is situated.

14. All property, both real and personal, of the wife, owned or claimed by her before marriage, and that acquired afterwards by gift, devise, or descent, shall be her separate property ; and laws shall be passed more clearly defining the rights of the wife, in relation as well to her separate property, as to that held in common with her husband. Laws shall also be passed providing for the registration of the wife's separate property.

15. The Legislature shall protect by law from forced sale a certain portion of the homestead and other property of all heads of families.

16. No perpetuities shall be allowed, except for eleemosynary purposes.

17. Every person shall be disqualified from holding any office of profit in this State who shall have been convicted of having given or offered a bribe to procure his election or appointment.

18. Laws shall be made to exclude from office, serving on juries, and from the right of suffrage, those who shall hereafter be convicted of bribery, perjury, forgery, or other high crimes. The privilege of free suffrage shall be supported by laws regulating elections, and prohibiting, under adequate penalties, all undue influence thereon from power, bribery, tumult, or other improper practice.

19. Absence from this State on business of the State, or of the United States, shall not affect the question of residence of any person.

20. A plurality of the votes given at an election shall constitute a choice, where not otherwise directed in this Constitution.

21. All laws, decrees, regulations, and provisions, which, from their nature require publication, shall be published in English and Spanish.

## ARTICLE XII.—*Boundary.*

The boundary of the State of California shall be as follows :

Commencing at the point of intersection of the forty-second degree of north latitude with the one hundred and twentieth degree of longitude west from Greenwich, and running south on the line of said one hundred and twentieth degree of west longitude until it intersects the thirty-ninth degree of north latitude ; thence running in a straight line in a south-easterly direction to the river Colorado, at a point where it intersects the thirty-fifth degree of north latitude ; thence down the middle of the channel of said river, to the boundary line between the United States and Mexico, as established by the treaty of May 30th, 1848 ; thence running west and along said boundary line to the Pacific Ocean, and extending therein three English miles ; thence running in a northwesterly direction, and following the direction of the Pacific coast to the forty-second degree of north latitude ; thence on the line of said forty-second degree of north latitude to the place of beginning. Also all the islands, harbors and bays along and adjacent to the Pacific coast.



## SCHEDULE.

SEC. 1. All rights, prosecutions, claims and contracts, as well of individuals as of bodies corporate, and all laws in force at the time of the adoption of this constitution, and not inconsistent therewith, until altered or repealed by the Legislature, shall continue as if the same had not been adopted.

2. The Legislature shall provide for the removal of all causes which may be pending when this constitution goes into effect, to courts created by the same.

3. In order that no inconvenience may result to the public service from the taking effect of this constitution, no office shall be superseded thereby, nor the laws relative to the duties of the several officers be changed, until the entering into office of the new officers to be appointed under this constitution.

4. The provisions of this constitution concerning the term of residence necessary to enable persons to hold certain offices therein mentioned, shall not be held to apply to officers chosen by the people at the first election, or by the Legislature at its first session.

5. Every citizen of California declared a legal voter by this constitution, and every citizen of the United States a resident of this State on the day of election, shall be entitled to vote at the first general election under this constitution, and on the question of the adoption thereof.

6. This constitution shall be submitted to the people, for their ratification or rejection, at the general election to be held on Tuesday, the thirteenth day of November next. The executive of the existing government of California is hereby requested to issue a proclamation to the people, directing the prefects of the several districts, or in case of vacancy, the sub-prefects, or senior judge of first instance, to cause such election to be held, on the day aforesaid, in their respective districts. The election shall be conducted in the manner which was prescribed for the election of delegates to this convention, except that the prefect, sub-prefect, or senior judge of first instance ordering such election in each district, shall have power to designate any additional number of places for opening the polls, and that in every place of holding the election a regular poll list shall be kept by the judges and inspectors of election. It shall also be the duty of these judges and inspectors of election, on the day aforesaid, to receive the votes of the electors qualified to vote at such election. Each voter shall express his opinion, by depositing in the ballot box a ticket, whereon shall be written, or printed, "For the Constitution," or "Against the Constitution," or some such words as will distinctly convey the intention of the voter. These judges and inspectors shall also receive the votes for the several officers to be voted for at the said election as herein provided. At the close of the election, the judges and inspectors shall carefully count each ballot, and forthwith make duplicate returns thereof to the prefect, sub-prefect, or senior judge of first instance, as the case may be, of their respective districts; and said prefect, sub-prefect, or senior judge of first instance, shall transmit one of the same, by the most safe and rapid conveyance, to the secretary of state. Upon the receipt of said returns, or on the tenth day of December next, if the returns be not sooner received, it shall be the duty of a board of canvassers, to consist of the secretary of state, one of the judges of the superior court, the prefect, judge of first instance, and an alcalde of the district of Monterey, or any three of the aforementioned officers, in the presence of all who shall choose to attend, to compare the votes given at said election, and to immediately publish an abstract of the same in one or more of the newspapers of California. And the executive will also immediately after ascertaining that the constitution has been ratified by the people, make proclamation of the fact; and thenceforth this constitution shall be ordained and established as the constitution of California.

7. If this constitution shall be ratified by the people of California, the executive of the existing government is hereby requested immediately after the same shall be ascertained, in the manner herein directed, to cause a fair copy thereof to be

forwarded to the President of the United States, in order that he may lay it before the Congress of the United States.

8. At the general election aforesaid, viz. the thirteenth day of November next, there shall be elected a governor, lieutenant governor, members of the Legislature, and also two members of Congress.

9. If this constitution shall be ratified by the people of California, the Legislature shall assemble at the seat of government on the fifteenth day of December next; and in order to complete the organization of that body, the Senate shall elect a president *pro tempore* until the lieutenant governor shall be installed into office.

10. On the organization of the Legislature, it shall be the duty of the secretary of state to lay before each house a copy of the abstract made by the board of canvassers, and if called for, the original returns of election, in order that each house may judge of the correctness of the report of said board of canvassers.

11. The Legislature at its first session shall elect such officers as may be ordered by this constitution to be elected by that body, and within four days after its organization proceed to elect two senators to the Congress of the United States. But no law passed by this Legislature shall take effect until signed by the governor after his installation into office.

12. The senators and representatives to the Congress of the United States, elected by the Legislature and people of California as herein directed, shall be furnished with certified copies of this constitution when ratified, which they shall lay before the Congress of the United States, requesting, in the name of the people of California, the admission of the State of California into the American Union.

13. All officers of this State, other than members of the Legislature, shall be installed into office on the fifteenth day of December next, or as soon thereafter as practicable.

14. Until the Legislature shall divide the State into counties, and senatorial and assembly districts, as directed by this constitution, the following shall be the apportionment of the two houses of the Legislature, viz: the districts of San Diego and Los Angeles shall jointly elect two senators; the districts of Santa Barbara and San Luis Obispo shall jointly elect one senator; the district of Monterey, one senator; the district of San Jose, one senator; the district of San Francisco, two senators; the district of Sonoma, one senator; the district of Sacramento, four senators; and the district of San Joaquin, four senators. And the district of San Diego shall elect one member of assembly; the district of Los Angeles, two members of assembly; the district of Santa Barbara, two members of assembly; the district of San Luis Obispo, one member of assembly; the district of Monterey, two members of assembly; the district of San Jose, three members of assembly; the district of San Francisco, five members of assembly; the district of Sonoma, two members of assembly; the district of Sacramento, nine members of assembly; and the district of San Joaquin, nine members of assembly.

15. Until the Legislature shall otherwise direct, in accordance with the provisions of this constitution, the salary of the governor shall be ten thousand dollars per annum; and the salary of the lieutenant governor shall be double the pay of a State senator; and the pay of members of the Legislature shall be sixteen dollars per diem while in attendance, and sixteen dollars for every twenty miles travel by the usual route from their residences, to the place of holding the session of the Legislature, and in returning therefrom. And the Legislature shall fix the salaries of all officers, other than those elected by the people at the first election.

16. The limitation of the powers of the Legislature, contained in article 8th of this constitution, shall not extend to the first Legislature elected under the same, which is hereby authorized to negotiate for such amount as may be necessary to pay the expenses of the State government.





# OREGON.



OREGON was first visited by the Spaniards in 1775 ; and the Columbia river, the largest on the Pacific slope, was first entered by Captain Gray, of the ship *Columbia*, of Boston, in 1792.

President Jefferson sent out an exploring expedition under Lewis and Clark, in 1804, and after that time fur-trading expeditions became common. The soil is usually fertile, except in the mountainous regions, and most of the products of the Middle States flourish. Its gigantic pine and fir trees are very famous, and timber is largely exported. The climate may be regarded as usually mild, although very changeable. Oregon is the hunter's Paradise, abounding in choice game of every variety, and in extensive fisheries. In 1839 emigration from the United States commenced, and the country has been rapidly settling since that time. In 1853 the Territory of Washington was separated from its northern part. The population at that time was estimated at 23,000, and in 1855, so great had been the increase, that the inhabitants applied for admission to the Union.

The following Constitution was adopted November, 1857:

## CONSTITUTION

*Framed by the Convention which met at Salem, on Monday, August 17th, 1857, and submitted for the adoption of the people on Monday, November 9th, 1857.*

### PREAMBLE.

WE, the people of the State of Oregon, to the end that justice be established, order maintained, and liberty perpetuated, do ordain this Constitution :



ARTICLE I.—*Bill of Rights.*

SEC. 1. We declare that all men, when they form a social compact, are equal in rights; that all power is inherent in the people, and all free governments are founded on their authority, and instituted for their peace, safety, and happiness; and that they have at all times a right to alter, reform, or abolish the government in such manner as they may think proper.

2. All men shall be secured in the natural right to worship Almighty God according to the dictates of their own conscience.

3. No law shall in any case whatever control the free exercise and enjoyment of religious opinions, or interfere with the rights of conscience.

4. No religious test shall be required as a qualification for any office of trust or profit.

5. No money shall be drawn from the Treasury for the benefit of any religious or theological institution, nor shall any money be appropriated for the payment of any religious services in either house of the Legislative Assembly.

6. No person shall be rendered incompetent as a witness or juror in consequence of his opinions on matters of religion; nor be questioned in any court of justice touching his religious belief, to affect the weight of his testimony.

7. The mode of administering an oath or affirmation shall be such as may be most consistent with and binding upon the conscience of the person to whom such oath or affirmation may be administered.

8. No law shall be passed restraining the free expression of opinion, or restricting the right to speak, write, or print freely on any subject whatever; but every person shall be responsible for the abuse of this right.

9. No law shall violate the right of the people to be secure in their persons, houses, papers, and effects, against unreasonable search or seizure; and no warrant shall issue but upon probable cause, supported by oath or affirmation, and particularly describing the place to be searched, and the person or thing to be seized.

10. No court shall be secret, but justice shall be administered openly and without purchase, completely and without delay; and every man shall have remedy by due course of law for injury done him in his person, property, or reputation.

11. In all criminal prosecutions the accused shall have the right to public trial by an impartial jury in the county in which the offense shall have been committed; to be heard by himself and counsel; to demand the nature and cause of the accusation against him, and to have a copy thereof; to meet the witnesses face to face, and to have compulsory process for obtaining witnesses in his favor.

12. No person shall be put in jeopardy twice for the same offense, nor be compelled in any criminal prosecution to testify against himself.

13. No person arrested or confined in jail shall be treated with unnecessary rigor.

14. Offenses—except murder and treason—shall be bailable by sufficient sureties. Murder or treason shall not be bailable when the proof is evident or the presumption strong.

15. Laws for the punishment of crime shall be founded on the principles of reformation, and not of vindictive justice.

16. Excessive bail shall not be required, nor excessive fines imposed. Cruel and unusual punishments shall not be inflicted, but all penalties shall be proportioned to the offense. In all criminal cases whatever, the jury shall have the right to determine the law and the facts under the direction of the court as to the law, and the right of new trial, as in civil cases.

17. In all civil cases the right of trial by jury shall remain inviolate.

18. Private property shall not be taken for public use, nor the particular services of any man be demanded, without a just compensation; nor, except in case of the State, without such compensation first assessed and tendered.

19. There shall be no imprisonment for debt, except in case of fraud or absconding debtors.

20. No law shall be passed granting to any citizen or class of citizens privileges or immunities which, upon the same terms, shall not equally belong to all citizens.

21. No ex-post facto law, or law impairing the obligation of contracts, shall ever be passed; nor shall any law be passed the taking effect of which shall be made to depend upon any authority except as provided in this Constitution. Provided that laws locating the capital of the State, locating county-seats, and submitting town and corporate acts, and other local and special laws, may take effect, or not, upon a vote of the electors interested.

22. The operation of the laws shall never be suspended, except by the authority of the Legislative Assembly.

23. The privilege of the writ of habeas corpus shall not be suspended, unless, in case of rebellion or invasion, the public safety require it.

24. Treason against the State shall consist only in levying war against it, adhering to its enemies, or giving them aid or comfort. No person shall be convicted of treason, unless on the testimony of two witnesses to the same overt act, or confession in open court.

25. No conviction shall work corruption of blood or forfeiture of estate.

26. No law shall be passed restraining any of the inhabitants of the State from assembling together in a peaceable manner to consult for their common good; nor from instructing their representatives; nor from applying to the Legislature for redress of grievances.

27. The people shall have the right to bear arms for the defense



of themselves and the State, but the military shall be kept in strict subordination to the civil power.

28. No soldier shall in time of peace be quartered in any house, without the consent of the owner; nor in time of war, except in manner prescribed by law.

29. No law shall be passed granting any title of nobility or conferring hereditary distinctions.

30. No law shall be passed prohibiting emigration from the State.

31. White foreigners who are, or who may hereafter become residents of this State, shall enjoy the same rights in respect to the possession, enjoyment, and descent of property, as native-born citizens, and the Legislative Assembly shall have power to restrain and regulate the immigration to the State of persons not qualified to become citizens of the United States.

32. No tax or duty shall be imposed without the consent of the people or their representatives in the Legislative Assembly, and all taxation shall be equal and uniform.

33. This enumeration of rights and privileges shall not be construed to impair or deny others retained by the people.

## ARTICLE II.—*Suffrage and Elections.*

SEC. 1. All elections shall be free and equal.

2. In all elections not otherwise provided for by this Constitution, every white male citizen of the United States, of the age of twenty-one years and upwards, who shall have resided in the State during the six months immediately preceding such election; and every white male of foreign birth of the age of twenty-one years and upwards, who shall have resided in the United States one year, and shall have resided in this State during the six months immediately preceding such election, and shall have declared his intention to become a citizen of the United States, one year preceding such election, conformably to the laws of the United States on the subject of naturalization, shall be entitled to vote at all elections authorized by law.

3. No idiot or insane person shall be entitled to the privileges of an elector; and the privilege of an elector shall be forfeited by a conviction of any crime which is punishable by imprisonment in the penitentiary.

4. For the purpose of voting, no person shall be deemed to have gained or lost a residence, by reason of his presence or absence while employed in the service of the United States or of this State, nor while engaged in the navigation of the waters of this State or of the United States, or of the high seas; nor while a student of any seminary of learning; nor while kept at any alms-house, or other asylum, at public expense; nor while confined in any public prison.

5. No soldier, seaman, or marine in the army or navy of the United States, or of their allies, shall be deemed to have acquired a residence

in the State, in consequence of having been stationed within the same ; nor shall any such soldier, seaman, or marine, have the right to vote.

6. No negro, Chinaman, or mulatto, shall have the right of suffrage.

7. Every person shall be disqualified from holding office during the term for which he may have been elected, who shall have given or offered a bribe, threat, or reward to procure his election.

8. The Legislative Assembly shall enact laws to support the privilege of free suffrage, prescribing the manner of regulating and conducting elections, and prohibiting, under adequate penalties, all undue influence therein, from power, bribery, tumult, and other improper conduct.

9. Every person who shall give or accept a challenge to fight a duel, or who shall knowingly carry to another person such challenge, or who shall agree to go out of the State to fight a duel, shall be ineligible to any office of trust or profit.

10. No person holding a lucrative office or appointment under the United States, or under this State, shall be eligible to a seat in the Legislative Assembly ; nor shall any person hold more than one lucrative office at the same time, except as in this Constitution expressly permitted : *Provided*, that officers in the militia, to which there is attached no annual salary, and the office of postmaster, where the compensation does not exceed one hundred dollars per annum, shall not be deemed lucrative.

11. No person who may hereafter be a collector or holder of public moneys, shall be eligible to any office of trust or profit until he shall have accounted for, and paid over according to law, all sums for which he may be liable.

12. In all cases in which it is provided that an office shall not be filled by the same person more than a certain number of years continuously, an appointment *pro tempore* shall not be reckoned a part of that term.

13. In all cases except treason, felony, and breach of the peace, electors shall be free from arrest in going to elections, during their attendance there, and in returning from the same ; and no elector shall be obliged to do duty in the militia on any day of election, except in time of war or public danger.

14. General elections shall be held on the first Monday of June, biennially.

15. In all elections by the Legislative Assembly, or by either branch thereof, votes shall be given openly, or *viva voce*, and not by ballot, forever ; and in all elections by the people, votes shall be given openly, or *viva voce*, until the Legislative Assembly shall otherwise direct.

16. In all elections held by the people, under this Constitution, the person or persons who shall receive the highest number of votes, shall be declared duly elected.

17. All qualified electors shall vote in the election precinct in the



county where they may reside, for county officers, and in any county in the State for State officers, or in any county of a Congressional district in which such electors may reside, for members of Congress.

ARTICLE III.—*Distribution of Powers.*

SEC. 1. The powers of the government shall be divided into three separate departments—the Legislative, the Executive, including the Administrative, and the Judicial; and no person charged with official duties under one of these departments shall exercise any of the functions of another, except as in this Constitution expressly provided.

ARTICLE IV.—*Legislative.*

SEC. 1. The legislative authority of the State shall be vested in the Legislative Assembly, which shall consist of a Senate and House of Representatives. The style of every bill shall be—Be it enacted by the Legislative Assembly of the State of Oregon; and no law shall be enacted except by bill.

2. The Senate shall consist of sixteen, and the House of Representatives of thirty-four members, which number shall not be increased until the year eighteen hundred and sixty, after which time the Legislative Assembly may increase the number of Senators and Representatives, always keeping as near as may be the same ratio as to the number of Senators and Representatives: *Provided*, that the Senate shall never exceed thirty, and the House of Representatives sixty members.

3. The Senators and Representatives shall be chosen by the electors of the respective counties, or districts, into which the State may, from time to time, be divided by law.

4. The Senators shall be elected for the term of four years, and Representatives for the term of two years from the day next after their general election: *Provided*, however, that the Senators elect at the first session of the Legislative Assembly under this Constitution shall be divided by lot into two equal classes, as nearly as may be, and the seats of Senators of the first class shall be vacated at the expiration of two years, and those of the second class at the expiration of four years; so that one-half, as nearly as possible, shall be chosen biennially, forever thereafter. And in case of the increase of the number of Senators, they shall be so annexed by lot to one or the other of the two classes as to keep them as nearly equal as possible.

5. The Legislative Assembly shall, in the year eighteen hundred and sixty-five, and every ten years after, cause an enumeration to be made of all the white population of the State.

6. The number of Senators and Representatives shall, at the session next following an enumeration of the inhabitants of the United States or this State, be fixed by law, and apportioned among the several counties according to the number of white population in each.

And the ratio of Senators and Representatives shall be determined by dividing the whole number of white population by the number of Senators and Representatives respectively ; and the number of Senators and Representatives to which any county or district shall be entitled, shall be determined by dividing the whole number of white population of such county or district by such respective ratios ; and when a fraction shall result from such division which shall exceed one-half of said ratio, such county or district shall be entitled to a member for such fraction. And in case any county shall not have the requisite population to entitle such county to a member, then such county shall be attached to some adjoining county for Senatorial or Representative purposes.

7. A Senatorial district, when more than one county shall constitute the same, shall be composed of contiguous counties, and no county shall be divided in creating Senatorial districts.

8. No person shall be a Senator or Representative who, at the time of his election, is not a citizen of the United States ; nor any one who has not been for one year, next preceding his election, an inhabitant of the county or district whence he may be chosen. Senators and Representatives shall be at least twenty-one years of age.

9. Senators and Representatives, in all cases, except for treason, felony, or breaches of the peace, shall be privileged from arrest during the session of the Legislative Assembly, and in going to and returning from the same ; and shall not be subject to any civil process during the session of the Legislative Assembly, nor during the fifteen days next before the commencement thereof. Nor shall a member, for words uttered in debate in either house, be questioned in any other place.

10. The sessions of the Legislative Assembly shall be held biennially, at the capital of the State, commencing on the second Monday of September, in the year 1858, and on the same day of every second year thereafter, unless a different day shall have been appointed by law.

11. Each house, when assembled, shall choose its own officers, judge of the election, qualifications, and returns of its own members, determine its own rules of proceeding, and set upon its own adjournments ; but neither house shall, without the concurrence of the other, adjourn for more than three days, nor to any other place than that in which it may be sitting.

12. Two-thirds of each house shall constitute a quorum to do business, but a smaller number may meet, adjourn from day to day, and compel the attendance of absent members. A quorum being in attendance, if either house fail to effect an organization within the first five days thereafter, the members of the house so failing shall be entitled to no compensation from the end of the said five days until an organization shall have been effected.

13. Each house shall keep a journal of its proceedings, and pub-



lish the same. The yeas and nays, on any question, shall, at the request of any two members, be entered, together with the names of the members demanding the same, on the journal: *Provided*, that on a motion to adjourn it shall require one-tenth of the members present to order the yeas and nays.

14. The doors of each house, and of committees of the whole, shall be kept open, except in such cases as in the opinion of either house may require secrecy.

15. Either house may punish its members for disorderly behavior, and may, with the concurrence of two-thirds, expel a member; but not a second time for the same cause.

16. Either house, during its session, may punish, by imprisonment, any person not a member who shall have been guilty of disrespect to the house by disorderly or contemptuous behavior in its presence; but such imprisonment shall not at any time exceed twenty-four hours.

17. Each house shall have all powers necessary for a branch of the legislative department of a free and independent State.

18. Bills may originate in either house, but may be amended or rejected in the other, except that bills for raising revenue shall originate in the House of Representatives.

19. Every bill shall be read by sections, on three several days, in each house; unless, in case of emergency, two-thirds of the house where such bill may be depending, shall, by a vote of yeas and nays, deem it expedient to dispense with this rule; but the reading of a bill by sections on its final passage, shall in no case be dispensed with, and the vote on the passage of every bill or joint resolution shall be taken by yeas and nays.

20. Every act shall embrace but one subject, and matters properly connected therewith, which subject shall be expressed in the title. But if any subject shall be embraced in an act which shall not be expressed in the title, such act shall be void only as to so much thereof as shall not be expressed in the title.

21. Every act and joint resolution shall be plainly worded, avoiding, as far as practicable, the use of technical terms.

22. No act shall ever be revised or amended by mere reference to its title; but the act revised, or section amended, shall be set forth and published at full length.

23. The Legislative Assembly shall not pass special or local laws, in any of the following enumerated cases, that is to say: Regulating the jurisdiction and duties of justices of the peace and of constables; for the punishment of crimes and misdemeanors; regulating the practice in courts of justice; providing for changing the venue in civil and criminal cases; granting divorces; changing the names of persons; for laying out, opening, and working on highways, and for the election or appointment of supervisors; vacating roads, town plats, streets, alleys, and public squares; summoning and impaneling grand and petit jurors; for the assessment and collection of

taxes for State, county, township or road purposes; providing for supporting common schools and for the preservation of school funds; in relation to interest on money; providing for opening and conducting elections of State, county, or township officers and designating the places of voting; providing for the sale of real estate belonging to minors, or other persons laboring under legal disabilities, by executors, administrators, guardians, or trustees.

24. Provision may be made, by general law, for bringing suit against the State, as to all liabilities originating after or existing at the time of the adoption of this Constitution; but no special act authorizing such suit to be brought, or making compensation to any person claiming damages against the State shall ever be passed.

25. A majority of all the members elected to each house shall be necessary to pass every bill or joint resolution; and all bills and joint resolutions so passed, shall be signed by the presiding officers of the respective houses.

26. Any member of either house shall have the right to protest, and have his protest, with his reasons for dissent, entered on the journal.

27. Every statute shall be a public law, unless otherwise declared in the statute itself.

28. No act shall take effect until ninety days from the end of the session at which the same shall have been passed, except in case of emergency; which emergency shall be declared in the preamble or in the body of the law.

29. The members of the Legislative Assembly shall receive for their services a sum not exceeding three dollars a day from the commencement of the session; but such pay shall not exceed in the aggregate one hundred and twenty dollars for per diem allowance for any one session. When convened in extra session by the Governor, they shall receive three dollars per day; but no extra session shall continue for a longer period than twenty days. They shall also receive the sum of three dollars for every twenty miles they shall travel in going to and returning from their place of meeting, on the most usual route. The presiding officer of the Assembly shall, in virtue of his office, receive an additional compensation equal to two-thirds of their per diem allowance as members.

30. No Senator or Representative shall, during the time for which he may have been elected, be eligible to any office the election to which is vested in the Legislative Assembly; nor shall be appointed to any civil office of profit which shall have been created, or the emoluments of which shall have been increased during such term; but this latter provision shall not be construed to apply to any officer elective by the people.

31. The members of the Legislative Assembly shall, before they enter on the duties of their respective offices, take and subscribe the following oath or affirmation: "I do solemnly swear (or affirm, as the case may be,) that I will support the Constitution of the United



States, and the Constitution of the State of Oregon, and that I will faithfully discharge the duties of Senator (or Representative, as the case may be,) according to the best of my ability." And such oath may be administered by the Governor, Secretary of State, or a Judge of the Supreme Court.

#### ARTICLE V.—*Executive.*

SEC. 1. The chief executive power of the State shall be vested in a Governor, who shall hold his office for the term of four years; and no person shall be eligible to such office more than eight in any period of twelve years.

2. No person, except a citizen of the United States, shall be eligible to the office of Governor, nor shall any person be eligible to that office who shall not have attained to the age of thirty years, and who shall not have been three years, next preceding his election, a resident within this State.

3. No member of Congress, or person holding any office under the United States, or under this State, or under any other Power, shall fill the office of Governor; except as may be otherwise provided in this Constitution.

4. The Governor shall be elected by the qualified electors of the State at the times and places of choosing members of the Legislative Assembly, and the returns of every election for Governor shall be sealed up and transmitted to the Secretary of State, directed to the Speaker of the House of Representatives, who shall open and publish them in the presence of both houses of the Legislative Assembly.

5. The person having the highest number of votes for Governor, shall be elected; but in case two or more persons shall have an equal, and the highest number of votes for Governor, the two houses of the Legislative Assembly, at the next regular session thereof, shall forthwith, by joint vote, proceed to elect one of the said persons Governor.

6. Contested elections for Governor shall be determined by the Legislative Assembly in such manner as may be prescribed by law.

7. The official term of the Governor shall be four years, and shall commence at such times as may be provided by this Constitution or prescribed by law.

8. In case of the removal of the Governor from office, or of his death, resignation, or inability to discharge the duties of the office, the same shall devolve on the Secretary of State; and in case of the removal from office, death, resignation, or inability, both of the Governor and Secretary of State, the President of the Senate shall act as Governor until the disability be removed or a Governor be elected.

9. The Governor shall be commander-in-chief of the military and naval forces of this State, and may call out such forces to execute the laws, to suppress insurrection, or to repel invasion.

10. He shall take care that the laws be faithfully executed.

11. He shall, from time to time, give to the Legislative Assembly information touching the condition of the State, and recommend such measures as he shall judge to be expedient.

12. He may, on extraordinary occasions, convene the Legislative Assembly by proclamation, and shall state to both houses, when assembled, the purposes for which they shall have been convened.

13. He shall transact all necessary business with the officers of government, and may require information in writing from the officers of the administrative and military departments upon any subject relating to the duties of their respective offices.

14. He shall have power to grant reprieves, commutations, and pardons, after conviction, for all offenses except treason, subject to such regulations as may be provided by law. Upon conviction for treason he shall have power to suspend the execution of the sentence until the case shall be reported to the Legislative Assembly at its next meeting, when the Legislative Assembly shall either grant a pardon, commute the sentence, direct the execution of the sentence, or grant a further reprieve. He shall have power to remit fines and forfeitures under such regulations as may be prescribed by law; and shall report to the Legislative Assembly at its next meeting each case of reprieve, commutation or pardon granted, and the reasons for granting the same; and also the names of all persons in whose favor remission of fines and forfeitures shall have been made, and the several amounts remitted.

15. Every bill which shall have passed the Legislative Assembly, shall, before it becomes a law, be presented to the Governor. If he approve, he shall sign it; but if not, he shall return it, with his objections, to that house in which it shall have originated, which house shall enter the objections at large upon the journal, and proceed to reconsider it. If, after such reconsideration, two-thirds of the members present shall agree to pass the bill, it shall be sent, together with the objections, to the other house, by which it shall likewise be reconsidered; and if approved by two-thirds of the members present, it shall become a law. But in all such cases, the votes of both houses shall be determined by yeas and nays, and the names of the members voting for and against the bill shall be entered on the journal of each house respectively. If any bill shall not be returned by the Governor within five days (Sundays excepted) after it shall have been presented to him, it shall be a law without his signature, unless the general adjournment shall prevent its return, in which case it shall be a law, unless the Governor, within five days next after the adjournment (Sundays excepted), shall file such bill, with his objections thereto, in the office of the Secretary of State, who shall lay the same before the Legislative Assembly at its next session, in like manner as if it had been returned by the Governor.

16. When, during a recess of the Legislative Assembly, a vacancy shall happen in any office, the appointment to which is vested in the Legislative Assembly; or when at any time a vacancy shall have



occurred in any other State office, or in the office of judge of any court, the Governor shall fill such vacancy by appointment, which shall expire when a successor shall have been elected and qualified.

17. He shall issue writs of election to fill such vacancies as may have occurred in the Legislative Assembly.

18. All commissions shall issue in the name of the State, shall be signed by the Governor, sealed with the seal of the State, and attested by the Secretary of State.

#### ARTICLE VI.—*Administrative.*

SEC. 1. There shall be elected by the qualified electors of the State at the times and places of choosing members of the Legislative Assembly, a Secretary and Treasurer of State, who shall severally hold their offices for the term of four years; but no person shall be eligible to either of said offices more than eight in any period of twelve years.

2. The Secretary of State shall keep a fair record of the official acts of the Legislative Assembly, and Executive department of the State, and shall, when required, lay the same and all matters relative thereto before either branch of the Legislative Assembly. He shall be, by virtue of his office, Auditor of public accounts, and shall perform such other duties as shall be assigned him by law.

3. There shall be a seal of State, kept by the Secretary of State for official purposes, which shall be called "The Seal of the State of Oregon."

4. The powers and duties of the Treasurer of State shall be such as may be prescribed by law.

5. The Governor and the Secretary and Treasurer of State shall severally keep the public records, books, and papers in any manner relating to their respective offices, at the seat of government, at which place also the Secretary of State shall reside.

6. There shall be elected in each county, by the qualified electors thereof, at the time of holding general elections, a County Clerk, Treasurer, Sheriff, Coroner and Surveyor, who shall severally hold their offices for the term of two years.

7. Such other county, township, precinct and city officers as may be necessary, shall be elected or appointed in such manner as may be prescribed by law.

8. No person shall be elected or appointed to a county office, who shall not be an elector of the county; and all county, township, precinct and city officers shall keep their respective offices at such places therein, and perform such duties as may be prescribed by law.

9. Vacancies in county, township, precinct and city offices shall be filled in such manner as may be prescribed by law.

ARTICLE VII.—*Judicial.*

SEC. 1. The judicial power of the State shall be vested in a Supreme Court, Circuit Courts and County Courts, which shall be courts of record, having general jurisdiction, to be defined, limited and regulated by law in accordance with this Constitution. Justices of the peace may also be invested with limited judicial powers; and municipal courts may be created to administer the regulations of incorporated towns and cities.

2. The Supreme Court shall consist of four Justices, to be chosen in districts by the electors thereof, who shall be citizens of the United States, and who shall have resided in the State at least three years next preceding their election, and after their election to reside in their respective districts. The number of justices and districts may be increased, but shall not exceed five until the white population of the State shall amount to one hundred thousand, and shall never exceed seven; and the boundaries of districts may be changed, but no change of districts shall have the effect to remove a Judge from office, or require him to change his residence without his consent.

3. The Judges first chosen under this Constitution, shall allot among themselves their terms of office, so that the term of one of them shall expire in two years, one in four years, and two in six years: and thereafter one or more shall be chosen every two years, to serve for the term of six years.

4. Every vacancy in the office of Judge of the Supreme Court shall be filled by election for the remainder of the vacant term, unless it would expire at the next election; and until so filled, or when it would so expire, the Governor shall fill the vacancy by appointment.

5. The Judge who has the shortest term to serve, or the oldest of several having such shortest term, and not holding by appointment, shall be the Chief Justice.

6. The Supreme Court shall have jurisdiction only to revise the final decisions of the Circuit Courts; and every cause shall be tried, and every decision shall be made by those Judges only, or a majority of them, who did not try the cause or make the decision in the Circuit Court.

7. The terms of the Supreme Court shall be appointed by law; but there shall be one term at the seat of government, annually. And at the close of each term the Judges shall file with the Secretary of State concise written statements of the decisions made at that term.

8. The Circuit Courts shall be held twice at least in each year, in each county organized for judicial purposes, by one of the Justices of the Supreme Court, at times to be appointed by law, and at such other times as may be appointed by the Judges severally in pursuance of law.



9. All judicial power, authority, and jurisdiction not vested by this Constitution or by laws consistent therewith, exclusively in some other court, shall belong to the Circuit Courts ; and they shall have appellate jurisdiction and supervisory control over the County Courts and all other inferior courts, officers and tribunals.

10. When the white population of the State shall amount to two hundred thousand, the Legislative Assembly may provide for the election of Supreme and Circuit Judges in district classes ; one of which classes shall consist of three Justices of the Supreme Court, who shall not perform circuit duty ; and the other class shall consist of the necessary number of Circuit Judges, who shall hold full terms, without allotment, and who shall take the same oath as the Supreme Judges.

11. There shall be elected in each county, for the term of four years, a county judge, who shall hold the County Court at times to be regulated by law.

12. The County Court shall have the jurisdiction pertaining to Probate Courts and Boards of County Commissioners, and such other powers and duties and such civil jurisdiction not exceeding the amount of value of five hundred dollars, and such criminal jurisdiction not extending to death or imprisonment in the penitentiary, as may be prescribed by law. But the Legislative Assembly may provide for the election of two commissioners to sit with the County Judge, whilst transacting county business, in any or all of the counties, or may provide a separate board for transacting such business.

13. The County Judge may grant preliminary injunctions, and such other writs as the Legislative Assembly may authorize him to grant, returnable to the Circuit Court, or otherwise, as may be provided by law, and may hear and decide questions arising upon habeas corpus, provided such decision be not against the authority or proceedings of a court or judge of equal or higher jurisdiction.

14. The counties having less than ten thousand white inhabitants shall be reimbursed, wholly or in part, for the salary and expenses of the County Court, by fees, percentage and other equitable taxation of the business done in said court, and in the office of the county clerk.

15. A County Clerk shall be elected in each county for the term of two years, who shall keep all the public records, books and papers of the county ; record conveyances, and perform the duties of clerk of the Circuit and County Courts, and such other duties as may be prescribed by law, but whenever the number of voters in any county shall exceed twelve hundred, the Legislative Assembly may authorize the election of one person as a clerk of the Circuit Court, one person as clerk of the County Court, and one person Recorder of Conveyances.

16. A Sheriff shall be elected in each county, for the term of two years, who shall be the ministerial officer of the Circuit and County Courts, and shall perform such other duties as may be prescribed by law.

17. There shall be elected by districts, composed of one or more counties, a sufficient number of prosecuting attorneys, who shall be the law officers of the State, and of the counties within their respective districts, and shall perform such duties pertaining to the administration of law and general police, as the Legislative Assembly may direct.

18. The Legislative Assembly shall so provide that the most competent of the permanent citizens of the county shall be chosen for jurors; and, out of the whole number in attendance at the court, seven shall be drawn, by lot, as grand jurors, five of whom must concur to find an indictment. But the Legislative Assembly may modify or abolish grand juries.

19. Public officers shall not be impeached; but incompetency, corruption, malfeasance, or delinquency in office may be tried in the same manner as criminal offenses; and judgment may be given of dismissal from office, and such further punishment as may have been prescribed by law.

20. The Governor may remove from office a Judge of the Supreme Court, or Prosecuting Attorney, upon the joint resolution of the Legislative Assembly, in which two-thirds of the members elected to each house shall concur, for incompetency, corruption, malfeasance, or delinquency in office, or other sufficient cause, stated in such resolution.

21. Every Judge of the Supreme Court, before entering upon the duties of his office, shall take and subscribe, and transmit to the Secretary of State, the following oath:

“I ———, do solemnly swear (or affirm) that I will support the Constitution of the United States, and the Constitution of the State of Oregon, and that I will faithfully and impartially discharge the duties of a Judge of the Supreme and Circuit Courts of said State, according to the best of my ability, and that I will not accept any other office, except judicial offices, during the term for which I have been elected.”

#### ARTICLE VIII.—*Education and School Lands.*

SEC. 1. The Governor shall be Superintendent of Public Instruction, and his powers and duties, in that capacity, shall be such as may be prescribed by law; but after the term of five years from the adoption of this Constitution, it shall be competent for the Legislative Assembly to provide by law for the election of a Superintendent, to provide for his compensation, and prescribe his powers and duties.

2. The proceeds of all the lands which have been or hereafter may be granted to this State for educational purposes (excepting the lands heretofore granted to aid in the establishment of a University), all the moneys and clear proceeds of all property which may accrue to the State by escheat, or forfeiture, all moneys which may



be paid as exemption from military duty, the proceeds of all gifts, devises and bequests made by any person to the State for common school purposes, the proceeds of all property granted to the State when the purposes of such grant shall not be stated; all the proceeds of the five hundred thousand acres of land to which this State is entitled by the provisions of an act of Congress entitled, "An act to appropriate the proceeds of the sales of the public lands, and to grant præemption rights," approved the fourth of September, 1841; and also the five per centum of the nett proceeds of the sales of the public lands to which this State shall become entitled on her admission into the Union, if Congress shall consent to such appropriation of the two grants last mentioned, shall be set apart as a separate and irreducible fund, to be called the Common School Fund, the interest of which, together with all other revenues derived from the school lands mentioned in this section, shall be exclusively applied to the support and maintenance of common schools in each school district, and the purchase of suitable libraries and apparatus therefor.

3. The Legislative Assembly shall provide by law for the establishment of a uniform and general system of common schools.

4. Provision shall be made by law for the distribution of the income of the common school fund among the several counties of this State, in proportion to the number of children resident therein between the ages of four and twenty years.

5. The Governor, Secretary of State, and State Treasurer, shall constitute a Board of Commissioners for the sale of School and University lands, and for the investment of the funds arising therefrom; and their powers and duties shall be such as may be prescribed by law: *Provided*, that no part of the University funds, or of the interest arising therefrom, shall be expended until the period of ten years from the adoption of this Constitution, unless the same shall be otherwise disposed of by the consent of Congress for common school purposes.

#### ARTICLE IX.—*Finance.*

SEC. 1. The Legislative Assembly shall provide by law for a uniform and equal rate of assessment and taxation, and shall prescribe such regulations as shall secure a just valuation for taxation of all property, both real and personal, excepting such only for municipal, educational, literary, scientific, religious, or charitable purposes, as may be especially exempted by law.

2. The Legislative Assembly shall provide for raising revenue sufficient to defray the expenses of the State for each fiscal year, and also a sufficient sum to pay the interest on the State debt, if there be any.

3. No tax shall be levied except in pursuance of law, and every law imposing a tax shall state distinctly the object of the same, to which only it shall be applied.

4. No money shall be drawn from the Treasury but in pursuance of appropriations made by law.

5. An accurate statement of the receipts and expenditures of the public money shall be published with the laws of each regular session of the Legislative Assembly.

6. Whenever the expenses of any fiscal year shall exceed the income, the Legislative Assembly shall provide for levying a tax for the ensuing fiscal year, sufficient, with other sources of income, to pay the deficiency, as well as the estimated expense of the ensuing fiscal year.

7. Laws making appropriations for the salaries of public officers and other current expenses of the State shall contain provisions upon no other subject.

8. All stationery required for the use of the State shall be furnished by the lowest responsible bidder under such regulations as may be prescribed by law. But no State officer or member of the Legislative Assembly shall be interested in any bid or contract for furnishing such stationery.

#### ARTICLE X.—*Militia.*

SEC. 1. The Militia of this State shall consist of all able-bodied male citizens, between the ages of eighteen and forty-five years, except such persons as now are, or hereafter may be, exempted by the laws of the United States, or of this State.

2. Persons whose religious tenets, or conscientious scruples, forbid them to bear arms, shall not be compelled to do so in time of peace, but shall pay an equivalent for personal service.

3. The Governor shall appoint the Adjutant-General and other chief officers of the general staff, and his own staff, and all officers of the line shall be elected by the persons subject to military duty in their respective districts.

4. The majors-general, brigadiers-general, colonels, or commanders of regiments, battalions, or squadrons, shall severally appoint their staff officers, and the Governor shall commission all officers of the line and staff ranking as such.

5. The Legislative Assembly shall fix by law the method of dividing the militia into divisions, brigades, regiments, battalions, and companies, and make all other needful rules and regulations in such manner as they may deem expedient and not incompatible with the Constitution or laws of the United States, or with the Constitution of this State, and shall fix the rank of all staff officers.

#### ARTICLE XI.—*Corporations and Internal Improvements.*

SEC. 1. The Legislative Assembly shall not have the power to establish or incorporate any bank or banking company, or moneyed institution whatever; nor shall any bank, company, or institution exist in the State with the privilege of making, issuing, or putting



in circulation any bill, check, certificate, promissory note or other paper, or the paper of any bank, company, or person, to circulate as money.

2. Corporations may be formed under general laws, but shall not be created by special laws except for municipal purposes; all laws passed pursuant to this section may be altered, amended, or repealed, but not so as to impair or destroy any vested corporate rights.

3. The stockholders of all corporations and joint stock companies shall be liable for the indebtedness of said corporation to the amount of their stock subscribed and unpaid, and no more.

4. No person's property shall be taken by any corporation under authority of law, without compensation being first made or secured in such manner as may be prescribed by law.

5. Acts of the Legislative Assembly incorporating towns and cities shall restrict their powers of taxation, borrowing money, contracting debts, and loaning their credit.

6. The State shall not subscribe to or be interested in the stock of any company, association, or corporation.

7. The Legislative Assembly shall not loan the credit of the State, nor in any manner create any debts or liabilities which shall singly or in the aggregate, with previous debts or liabilities, exceed the sum of fifty thousand dollars, except in case of war, or to repel invasion, or suppress insurrection; and every contract of indebtedness entered into or assumed by or on behalf of the State, when all its liabilities and debts amount to said sum, shall be void and of no effect.

8. The State shall never assume the debts of any county, town, city, or other corporation whatever, unless such debts shall have been created to repel invasion, suppress insurrection, or defend the State in war.

9. No county, city, town, or other municipal corporation, by vote of its citizens or otherwise, shall become a stockholder in any joint stock company, corporation, or association, whatever, or raise money for or loan its credit to or in aid of any such company, corporation, or association.

10. No county shall create any debts or liabilities which shall singly or in the aggregate exceed the sum of five thousand dollars, except to suppress insurrection or repel invasion; but the debts of any county, at the time this Constitution takes effect, shall be disregarded in estimating the sum to which such county is limited.

## ARTICLE XII.—*State Printer.*

SEC. 1. There shall be elected by the qualified electors of the State, at the times and places of choosing members of the Legislative Assembly, a State Printer, who shall hold his office for the term of four years. He shall perform all the public printing for the State which may be provided by law. The rates to be paid to him for such printing shall be fixed by law, and shall neither be increased

nor diminished during the term for which he shall have been elected. He shall give such security for the performance of his duties as the Legislative Assembly may provide.

#### ARTICLE XIII.—*Salaries.*

SEC. 1. The Governor shall receive an annual salary of fifteen hundred dollars. The Secretary of State shall receive an annual salary of fifteen hundred dollars. The Treasurer of State shall receive an annual salary of eight hundred dollars. The Judges of the Supreme Court shall each receive an annual salary of two thousand dollars; they shall receive no fees or perquisites whatever for the performance of any duties connected with their respective offices; and the compensation of officers, if not fixed by this Constitution, shall be provided by law.

#### ARTICLE XIV.—*Seat of Government.*

SEC. 1. The Legislative Assembly shall not have power to establish a permanent Seat of Government for this State. But at the first regular session after the adoption of this Constitution, the Legislative Assembly shall provide by law for the submission to the electors of this State, at the next general election thereafter, the matter of selection of a place for a permanent Seat of Government, and no place shall ever be the Seat of Government under such law, which shall not receive a majority of all the votes cast on the matter of such selection.

2. No tax shall be levied, or money of the State expended, or debts contracted, for the erection of a State House prior to the year eighteen hundred and sixty-five.

3. The Seat of Government when established as provided in section one, shall not be removed for the term of twenty years from the time of such establishment, nor in any other manner than as provided in the first section of this article: *Provided*, that all public institutions of the State hereafter provided for by the Legislative Assembly, shall be located at the Seat of Government.

#### ARTICLE XV.—*Miscellaneous.*

SEC. 1. All officers, except members of the Legislative Assembly, shall hold their offices until their successors are elected and qualified.

2. When the duration of any office is not provided for by this Constitution, it may be declared by law; and if not so declared, such office shall be held during the pleasure of the authority making the appointment. But the Legislative Assembly shall not create any office, the tenure of which shall be longer than four years.

3. Every person elected or appointed to any office under this Constitution, shall, before entering on the duties thereof, take an oath or affirmation to support the Constitution of the United States, and of this State, and also an oath of office.



4. Lotteries, and the sale of lottery tickets, for any purpose whatever, are prohibited, and the Legislative Assembly shall prevent the same by penal laws.

5. The property and pecuniary rights of every married woman, at the time of marriage, or afterwards acquired, by gift, devise, or inheritance, shall not be subject to the debts or contracts of the husband; and laws shall be passed providing for the registration of the wife's separate property.

6. No county shall be reduced to an area of less than four hundred square miles; nor shall any new county be established in this State containing a less area, nor unless such new county shall contain a population of at least twelve hundred inhabitants.

7. No State officers or members of the Legislative Assembly shall directly or indirectly receive a fee or be engaged as counsel, agent, or attorney, in the prosecution of any claim against this State.

8. No Chinaman, not a resident of the State at the adoption of this Constitution, shall ever hold any real estate or mining claim, or work any mining claim therein. The Legislative Assembly shall provide by law in the most effectual manner for carrying out the above provisions.

#### ARTICLE XVI.—*Boundaries.*

In order that the boundaries of the State may be known and established, it is hereby ordained and declared that the State of Oregon shall be bounded as follows, to wit: Beginning one marine league at sea, due west from the point where the forty-second parallel of north latitude intersects the same; thence northerly at the same distance from the line of the coast, lying west and opposite the State, including all islands within the jurisdiction of the United States, to a point due west and opposite the middle of the north ship channel of the Columbia river; thence easterly to and up the middle channel of said river, and when it is divided by islands up the middle of the widest channel thereof, and in like manner up the middle of the main channel of Snake river to the mouth of the Owyhee river; thence due south to the parallel of latitude forty-two degrees north; thence west along said parallel to the place of beginning, including jurisdiction in civil and criminal cases upon the Columbia river and Snake river, concurrently with States and Territories of which those rivers form a boundary in common with the State.

But the Congress of the United States in providing for the admission of this State into the Union may make the said northern boundary conform to the act creating the Territory of Washington.

#### ARTICLE XVII.—*Amendments.*

SEC. 1. Any amendment or amendments to this Constitution may be proposed in either branch of the Legislative Assembly, and if the same shall be agreed to by a majority of all the members elected to

each of the two houses, such proposed amendment or amendments, shall, with the ayes and nays thereon, be entered on their journals and referred to the Legislative Assembly to be chosen at the next general election; and if, in the Legislative Assembly so next chosen, such proposed amendment or amendments shall be agreed to by a majority of all the members elected to each house, then it shall be the duty of the Legislative Assembly to submit such amendment or amendments to the electors of the State; and cause the same to be published without delay, at least four consecutive weeks, in the several newspapers published in this State; and if a majority of said electors shall ratify the same, such amendment or amendments shall become a part of this Constitution.

2. If two or more amendments shall be submitted in such manner that the electors shall vote for or against each of such amendments separately; and while an amendment or amendments, which shall have been agreed upon by one Legislative Assembly, shall be awaiting the action of a Legislative Assembly or of the electors, no additional amendment or amendments shall be proposed.

### SCHEDULE.

SEC. 1. For the purpose of taking the vote of the electors of the State for the acceptance of rejection of this Constitution, an election shall be held on the second Monday of November, in the year 1857, to be conducted according to existing laws regulating the election of Delegate in Congress, so far as applicable, except as herein otherwise provided.

2. Each elector, who offers to vote upon this Constitution, shall be asked by the judges of election this question: Do you vote for the Constitution, yes or no? and also this question: Do you vote for Slavery in Oregon, yes or no? and also this question: Do you vote for free negroes in Oregon, yes or no? And in the poll books shall be columns headed respectively, "Constitution, yes," "Constitution, no," "Slavery, yes," "Slavery, no," "Free negroes, yes," "Free negroes, no." And the names of the electors shall be entered in the poll-books, together with their answers to the said questions, under their appropriate heads. The abstracts of the votes transmitted to the Secretary of the Territory shall be publicly opened and canvassed by the Governor and Secretary, or by either of them in the absence of the other; and the Governor, or in his absence the Secretary, shall forthwith issue his proclamation, and publish the same in the several newspapers printed in this State, declaring the result of the said election upon each of said questions.

3. If a majority of all the votes given for and against the Constitution shall be given for the Constitution, then this Constitution shall be deemed to be approved and accepted by the electors of the State, and shall take effect accordingly; and if a majority of such votes shall be given against the Constitution, then this Constitution



shall be deemed to be rejected by the electors of the State, and shall be void.

4. If this Constitution shall be accepted by the electors, and a majority of all the votes given for and against Slavery, shall be given for Slavery, then the following section shall be added to the Bill of Rights, and shall be part of this Constitution : "SEC. —. Persons lawfully held as Slaves in any State, Territory, or District of the United States, under the laws thereof, may be brought into this State, and such Slaves and their descendants may be held as Slaves within this State, and shall not be emancipated without the consent of their owners." And if a majority of such votes shall be given against Slavery, then the foregoing section shall not, but the following section shall be added to the Bill of Rights, and shall be a part of this Constitution : "SEC. —. There shall be neither Slavery nor involuntary servitude in this State, otherwise than as a punishment for crime, whereof the party shall have been duly convicted." And if a majority of all the votes given for and against free negroes, shall be given against free negroes, the following section shall be added to the Bill of Rights, and shall be part of this Constitution : "SEC. —. No free negro or mulatto, not residing in this State at the time of the adoption of this Constitution, shall come, reside, or be within this State, or hold any real estate, or make any contracts, or maintain any suit therein ; and the Legislative Assembly shall provide by penal laws for the removal, by public officers, of all such negroes and mulattoes, and for their effectual exclusion from this State, and for the punishment of persons who shall bring them into the State or employ or harbor them therein."

5. Until an enumeration of the white inhabitants of the State shall be made, and the Senators and Representatives apportioned as directed in this Constitution, the county of Marion shall have two Senators and four Representatives ; Linn, two Senators and four Representatives ; Lane, two Senators and three Representatives ; Clackamas and Wasco one Senator jointly, and Clackamas three Representatives and Wasco one Representative ; Yamhill, one Senator and two Representatives ; Polk, one Senator and two Representatives ; Benton, one Senator and two Representatives ; Multnomah, one Senator and two Representatives ; Washington, Columbia, Clatsop and Tillamook, one Senator jointly, and Washington one Representative, and Washington and Columbia one Representative jointly, and Clatsop and Tillamook one Representative jointly ; Douglas, one Senator and two Representatives ; Jackson, one Senator and three Representatives ; Josephine, one Senator and one Representative ; Umpqua, Coos and Curry, one Senator jointly, and Umpqua one Representative, and Coos and Curry one Representative jointly.

6. If this Constitution shall be ratified, an election shall be held on the first Monday of June, 1858, for the election of members of the Legislative Assembly, a Representative in Congress, and State

and county officers ; and the Legislative Assembly shall convene at the capitol on the first Monday of July, 1858, and proceed to elect two Senators in Congress, and make such further provision as may be necessary to the complete organization of a State government.

7. All laws in force in the Territory of Oregon when this Constitution takes effect, and consistent therewith, shall continue in force until altered or repealed.

8. All officers of the Territory of Oregon, or under its laws, when this Constitution takes effect, shall continue in office until superseded by the State authorities.

9. Crimes and misdemeanors committed against the Territory of Oregon shall be punished by the State as they might have been punished by the Territory if the change of government had not been made.

10. All property and rights of the Territory and of the several counties, subdivisions, and political bodies corporate of, or in the Territory, including fines, penalties, forfeitures, debts and claims of whatsoever nature, and recognizances, obligations and undertakings, to or for the use of the Territory, or any county, political corporation, officer or otherwise, to or for the public, shall enure to the State, or remain to the county, local division, corporation, officer or public, as if the change of government had not been made, and private rights shall not be affected by such change.

11. Until otherwise provided by law, the judicial districts of the State shall be constituted as follows : The counties of Jackson, Josephine, and Douglas, shall constitute the first district ; the counties of Umpqua, Coos and Curry, Lane and Benton, shall constitute the second district ; the counties of Linn, Marion, Polk, Yamhill and Washington, shall constitute the third district ; the counties of Clackamas, Multnomah, Wasco, Columbia, Clatsop and Tillamook, shall constitute the fourth district ; and the county of Tillamook shall be attached to the county of Clatsop for judicial purposes.

Done in Convention at Salem, the eighteenth day of September, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and fifty-seven, and of the Independence of the United States the eighty-second.



# MINNESOTA.



MINNESOTA (originally written Minnay Sotor,) formed a part of the Louisiana Territory. In 1805 an exploring party, sent out by the United States Government, traversed the country, and soon after fortifications were erected at Fort Snelling, which have been garrisoned by United States troops since 1819. It is the most elevated tract of land between Hudson's Bay and the Gulf of Mexico; abounds in lakes, and rivers, and timber of every kind. Soil varies throughout the State; the river valleys are exceedingly rich and fertile, producing corn, wheat, oats and potatoes, in quality and quantity equal to that of any other State. Several of its rivers are navigable, and at their falls and rapids furnish water power equal to any in the world. The climate in winter is somewhat severe, with abundance of snow, but not more so than in many of the New England States. The State has an excellent system of common schools, and a State University. In 1849 it was organized under a Territorial government, and in November, 1857, the following Constitution was ratified by the people, under which it was admitted to the Union, May, 1858.

Estimated population in 1856, 160,000. Area 141,839 square miles.

## CONSTITUTION

*Adopted in Convention, on Friday, August 29, 1857. Signed by the Officers and Members of the Convention, August 30, 1857. Ratified by the People, November, 1857.*

### PREAMBLE.

WE, the people of the State of Minnesota, grateful to God for our civil and religious liberty, and desiring to perpetuate its blessings,

and secure the same to ourselves and our posterity, do ordain and establish this Constitution :

ARTICLE I.—*Bill of Rights.*

SEC. 1. Government is instituted for the security, benefit and protection of the people, in whom all political power is inherent, together with the right to alter, modify, or reform such government, whenever the public good may require it.

2. No member of this State shall be disfranchised, or deprived of any of the rights or privileges secured to any citizen thereof, unless by the law of the land, or the judgment of his peers. There shall be neither slavery nor involuntary servitude in the State otherwise than in the punishment of crime whereof the party shall have been duly convicted.

3. The liberty of the press shall forever remain inviolate, and all persons may freely speak, write and publish their sentiments on all subjects, being responsible for the abuse of such right.

4. The right of trial by jury shall remain inviolate, and shall extend to all cases at law without regard to the amount in controversy, but a jury trial may be waived by the parties in all cases, in the manner prescribed by law.

5. Excessive bail shall not be required, nor shall excessive fines be imposed, nor shall cruel or unusual punishments be inflicted.

6. In all criminal prosecutions the accused shall enjoy the right to a speedy and public trial, by an impartial jury of the county or district wherein the crime shall have been committed, which county or district shall have been previously ascertained by law, and to be informed of the nature and cause of the accusation, to be confronted with the witnesses against him, to have compulsory process for obtaining witnesses in his favor, and to have the assistance of counsel in his defense.

7. No person shall be held to answer for a criminal offense unless on the presentment or indictment of a Grand Jury, except in cases of impeachment, or in cases cognizable by Justices of the Peace, or arising in the army or navy, or in the militia when in actual service in time of war or public danger; and no person for the same offense shall be put twice in jeopardy of punishment, nor shall be compelled in any criminal case to be witness against himself, nor be deprived of life, liberty, or property without due process of law. All persons shall, before conviction, be bailable by sufficient sureties, except for capital offenses, when the proof is evident or the presumption great; and the privilege of the writ of habeas corpus shall not be suspended, unless when, in cases of rebellion or invasion, the public safety may require.

8. Every person is entitled to a certain remedy in the laws for all injuries or wrongs which he may receive in his person, property, or character; he ought to obtain justice freely and without purchase; completely, and without denial; promptly, and without delay, conformably to the laws.



9. Treason against the State shall consist only in levying war against the same, or in adhering to its enemies, giving them aid and comfort. No person shall be convicted of treason unless on the testimony of two witnesses to the same overt act, or on confession in open court.

10. The right of the people to be secure in their persons, houses, papers and effects, against unreasonable searches and seizures, shall not be violated, and no warrant shall issue but upon probable cause, supported by oath or affirmation, and particularly describing the place to be searched, and the person or things to be seized.

11. No bill of attainder, *ex post facto* law, nor any law impairing the obligation of contracts shall ever be passed, and no conviction shall work corruption of blood or forfeiture of estate.

12. No person shall be imprisoned for debt in this State; but this shall not prevent the Legislature from providing for imprisonment or holding to bail persons charged with fraud in contracting said debt. A reasonable amount of property shall be exempt from seizure or sale for the payment of any debt or liability. The amount of such exemption shall be determined by law.

13. Private property shall not be taken for public use without just compensation therefor, first paid and secured.

14. The military shall be subordinate to the civil power, and no standing army shall be kept up in this State in time of peace.

15. All lands within this State are declared to be allodial, and feudal tenures of every description, with all their incidents, are prohibited. Leases and grants of agricultural land for a longer period than twenty-one years, hereafter made, in which shall be reserved any rent or service of any kind, shall be void.

16. The enumeration of rights in this Constitution shall not be construed to deny or impair others retained by and inherent in the people. The right of every man to worship God according to the dictates of his own conscience shall never be infringed, nor shall any man be compelled to attend, erect, or support any place of worship, or to maintain any religious or ecclesiastical ministry against his consent, nor shall any control of, or interference with the rights of conscience be permitted, or any preference be given by law to any religious establishment or mode of worship; but the liberty of conscience hereby secured shall not be so construed as to excuse acts of licentiousness, or justify practices inconsistent with the peace or safety of the State, nor shall any money be drawn from the Treasury for the benefit of any religious societies, or religious or theological seminaries.

17. No religious test or amount of property shall ever be required as a qualification for any office of public trust under the State. No religious test or amount of property shall ever be required as a qualification of any voter at any election in this State; nor shall any person be rendered incompetent to give evidence in any court of law or equity in consequence of his opinion upon the subject of religion.

ARTICLE II.—*On Name and Boundaries.*

SEC. 1. This State shall be called and known by the name of the State of Minnesota, and shall consist of and have jurisdiction over the territory embraced in the following boundaries, to wit: Beginning at the point in the center of the main channel of the Red River of the North, where the boundary line between the United States and the British possessions crosses the same; thence up the main channel of said river to that of the Bois des Sioux river; thence up the main channel of said river to Lake Travers; thence up the center of said lake to the southern extremity thereof; thence in a direct line to the head of Big Stone Lake, thence through its center to its outlet; thence by a due south line to the north line of the State of Iowa; thence east along the northern boundary of said State to the main channel of the Mississippi river; thence up the main channel of said river, and following the boundary line of the State of Wisconsin until the same intersects the St. Louis river; thence down the said river to and through Lake Superior, on the boundary line of Wisconsin and Michigan, until it intersects the dividing line between the United States and British possessions; thence up Pigeon river, and following said dividing line to the place of beginning.

2. The State of Minnesota shall have concurrent jurisdiction on the Mississippi, and all other rivers and waters bordering on the said State of Minnesota, so far as the same shall form a common boundary to said State, and any other State or States now or hereafter to be formed by the same; and said river and waters, and navigable waters leading into the same, shall be common highways, and forever free, as well to the inhabitants of said State as to other citizens of the United States, without any tax, duty, impost, or toll thereof.

3. The propositions contained in the act of Congress entitled "An Act to authorize the people of the Territory of Minnesota to form a Constitution and State Government preparatory to their admission into the Union on an equal footing with the original States," are hereby accepted, ratified, and confirmed, and shall remain irrevocable without the consent of the United States; and it is hereby ordained that this State shall never interfere with the primary disposal of the soil within the same, by the United States, or with any regulations Congress may find necessary for securing the title to said soil to *bona fide* purchasers thereof; and no tax shall be imposed on lands belonging to the United States, and in no case shall non-resident proprietors be taxed higher than residents.

ARTICLE III.—*Distribution of the Powers of Government.*

SEC. 1. The powers of the government shall be divided into three distinct departments, the Legislative, Executive and Judicial; and no person or persons belonging to or constituting one of these departments shall exercise any of the powers properly belonging to



either of the others, except in the instances expressly provided in this Constitution.

ARTICLE IV.—*Legislative Department.*

SEC. 1. The Legislature of the State shall consist of a Senate and House of Representatives, who shall meet at the Seat of Government of the State, at such times as shall be prescribed by law.

2. The number of members who compose the Senate and House of Representatives shall be prescribed by law, but the representation in the Senate shall never exceed one member for every five thousand inhabitants, and in the House of Representatives one member for every two thousand inhabitants. The representation in both houses shall be apportioned equally throughout the different sections of the State, in proportion to the population thereof, exclusive of Indians not taxable under the provisions of law.

3. Each house shall be the judge of the election returns, and eligibility of its own members; a majority of each shall constitute a quorum to transact business, but a smaller number may adjourn from day to day, and compel the attendance of absent members in such manner and under such penalties as it may provide.

4. Each house may determine the rules of its proceedings, sit upon its own adjournment, punish its members for disorderly behavior, and, with the concurrence of two-thirds, expel a member, but no member shall be expelled a second time for the same offense.

5. The House of Representatives shall elect its presiding officer, and the Senate and House of Representatives shall elect such other officers as may be provided by law; they shall keep journals of their proceedings, and from time to time publish the same, and the yeas and nays, when taken on any question, shall be entered on such journals.

6. Neither house shall, during a session of the Legislature, adjourn for more than three days (Sundays excepted), nor to any other place than that in which the two houses shall be assembled, without the consent of the other house.

7. The compensation of Senators and Representatives shall be three dollars per diem during the first session, but may afterwards be prescribed by law. But no increase of compensation shall be prescribed which shall take effect during the period for which the members of the existing House of Representatives may have been elected.

8. The members of each house shall, in all cases, except treason, felony, and breach of the peace, be privileged from arrest during the session of their respective houses, and in going to or returning from the same. For any speech or debate in either house they shall not be questioned in any other place.

9. No Senator or Representative shall, during the time for which he is elected, hold any office under the authority of the United States, or the State of Minnesota, except that of postmaster; and no

Senator or Representative shall hold an office under the State, which had been created, or the emoluments of which had been increased during the session of the Legislature of which he was a member, until one year after the expiration of his term of office in the Legislature.

10. All bills for raising a revenue shall originate in the House of Representatives, but the Senate may propose and concur with amendments, as on other bills.

11. Every bill which shall have passed the Senate and House of Representatives, in conformity to the rules of each house, and the joint rules of the two houses, shall, before it becomes a law, be presented to the Governor of the State. If he approve, he shall sign and deposit it in the office of the Secretary of State for preservation, and notify the house where it originated of the fact. But if not, he shall return it with his objections to the house in which it shall have originated, when such objections shall be entered at large on the journal of the same, and the house shall proceed to reconsider the bill. If, after such reconsideration, two-thirds of that house shall agree to pass the bill, it shall be sent, together with the objections, to the other house, by which it shall likewise be reconsidered, and if it be approved by two-thirds of that house it shall become a law. But in all such cases the votes of both houses shall be determined by yeas and nays, and the names of the persons voting for or against the bill shall be entered on the journal of each house respectively. If any bill shall not be returned by the Governor within three days (Sundays excepted) after it shall have been presented to him, the same shall be a law in like manner as if he had signed it, unless the Legislature by adjournment within that time prevent its return, in which case it shall not be a law. The Governor may approve, sign, and file in the office of the Secretary of State, within three days after the adjournment of the Legislature, any act passed during the last three days of the session, and the same shall become a law.

12. No money shall be appropriated except by bill. Every order, resolution, or vote, requiring the concurrence of the two houses (except such as relate to the business or adjournment of the same), shall be presented to the Governor for his signature, and, before the same shall take effect, shall be approved by him, or, being returned by him with his objections, shall be repassed by two-thirds of the members of the two houses, according to the rules and limitations prescribed in case of a bill.

13. The style of all laws of this State shall be: "Be it enacted by the Legislature of the State of Minnesota." No law shall be passed unless voted for by a majority of all the members elected to each branch of the Legislature, and the vote entered upon the journal of each house.

14. The House of Representatives shall have the sole power of impeachment, through a concurrence of a majority of all the members elected to seats therein. All impeachments shall be tried by the Senate; and when sitting for that purpose the Senators shall be



upon oath or affirmation to do justice according to law and evidence. No person shall be convicted without the concurrence of two-thirds of the members present.

15. The Legislature shall have full power to exclude from the privilege of electing or being elected, any person convicted of bribery, perjury, or any other infamous crime.

16. Two or more members of either house shall have liberty to dissent and protest against any act or resolution which they may think injurious to the public or to any individual, and have the reason of their dissent entered on the journal.

17. The Governor shall issue writs of election to fill such vacancies as may occur in either house of the Legislature. The Legislature shall prescribe by law the manner in which evidence in cases of contested seats in either house shall be taken.

18. Each house may punish by imprisonment, during its session, any person not a member who shall be guilty of any disorderly or contemptuous behavior in their presence, but no such imprisonment shall at any time exceed twenty-four hours.

19. Each house shall be open to the public during the sessions thereof, except in such cases as in their opinion may require secrecy.

20. Every bill shall be read on three different days in each separate house, unless, in case of urgency, two-thirds of the house where such bill is depending, shall deem it expedient to dispense with this rule, and no bill shall be passed by either House until it shall have been previously read twice at length.

21. Every bill having passed both houses, shall be carefully enrolled, and shall be signed by the presiding officer of each house. Any presiding officer refusing to sign a bill which shall have previously passed both houses, shall hereafter be incapable of holding a seat in either branch of the Legislative Assembly, or hold any other office of honor or profit in the State; and in case of such refusal, each house shall, by rule, provide the manner in which such bill shall be properly certified for presentation to the Governor.

22. No bill shall be passed by either house of the Legislature upon the day prescribed for the adjournment of the two houses. But this section shall not be so construed as to preclude the enrollment of a bill, or the signature and passage from one house to the other, or the reports thereon from committees, or its transmission to the Executive for his signature.

23. The Legislature shall provide by law for an enumeration of the inhabitants of this State in the year one thousand eight hundred and sixty-five, and every tenth year thereafter. At their first session after each enumeration so made, and also at their first session after each enumeration made by the authority of the United States, the Legislature shall have the power to prescribe the bounds of Congressional, Senatorial and Representative districts, and to apportion anew the Senators and Representatives among the several districts, according to the provisions of section second of this article.

24. The Senators shall also be chosen by single districts of convenient contiguous territory, at the same time that the members of the House of Representatives are required to be chosen, and in the same manner; and no representative district shall be divided in the formation of a senate district. The senate districts shall be numbered in regular series, and the Senators chosen by the districts designated by odd numbers, shall go out of office at the expiration of the first year, and the Senators chosen by the districts designated by even numbers shall go out of office at the expiration of the second year; and thereafter the Senators shall be chosen for the term of two years, except there shall be an entire new election of all the Senators at the election next succeeding each new apportionment provided for in this article.

25. Senators and Representatives shall be qualified voters of the State, and shall have resided one year in the State, and six months immediately preceding the election in the district from which they are elected.

26. Members of the Senate of the United States from this State shall be elected by the two houses of the Legislature, in joint convention, at such times and in such manner as may be provided by law.

27. No law shall embrace more than one subject, which shall be expressed in its title.

28. Divorces shall not be granted by the Legislature.

29. All members and officers of both branches of the Legislature shall, before entering on the duties of their respective trusts, take and subscribe an oath or affirmation to support the Constitution of the United States, the Constitution of the State of Minnesota, and faithfully and impartially to discharge the duties devolving upon him as such member or officer.

30. In all elections to be made by the Legislature, the members thereof shall vote *viva voce*, and their votes shall be entered on the journal.

31. The Legislature shall never authorize any lottery, or the sale of lottery tickets.

#### ARTICLE V.—*Executive Department.*

SEC. 1. The Executive department shall consist of a Governor, Lieutenant-Governor, Secretary of State, Auditor, Treasurer, and Attorney General, who shall be chosen by the electors of the State.

2. The returns of every election, for the officers named in the foregoing section, shall be made to the Secretary of State, and by him transmitted to the Speaker of the House of Representatives, who shall cause the same to be opened and canvassed before both houses of the Legislature, and the result declared within three days after each house shall be organized.

3. The term of office for the Governor and Lieutenant-Governor shall be two years, and until their successors are chosen and qualified.



Each shall have attained the age of twenty-five (25) years, and shall have been a *bona fide* resident of the State for one year next preceding his election. Both shall be citizens of the United States.

4. The Governor shall communicate by message to each session of the Legislature, such information touching the state and condition of the country as he may deem expedient. He shall be commander-in-chief of the military and naval forces, and may call out such forces to execute the laws, to suppress insurrection and to repel invasion. He may require the opinion, in writing, of the principal officer in each of the Executive departments, upon any subject relating to the duties of their respective offices, and he shall have power to grant reprieves and pardons after conviction for offences against the State, except in cases of impeachment. He shall have power, by and with the advice and consent of the Senate, to appoint a State Librarian, and Notaries Public, and such other officers as may be provided by law; he shall have power to appoint Commissioners to take the acknowledgement of Deeds, or other instruments in writing, to be used in the State. He shall have a negative upon all laws passed by the Legislature under such rules and limitations as are in this Constitution prescribed. He may, on extraordinary occasions, convene both houses of the Legislature. He shall take care that the laws be faithfully executed, fill any vacancy that may occur in the office of Secretary of State, Treasurer, Auditor, Attorney-General, and such other State and District offices as may be hereafter created by law, until the next annual election, and until their successors are chosen and qualified.

5. The official term of the Secretary of State, Treasurer and Attorney-General, shall be two years. The official term of the Auditor shall be three years, and each shall continue in office until his successor shall have been elected and qualified. The Governor's salary for the first term under this Constitution shall be two thousand five hundred dollars per annum. The salary of the Secretary of State for the first term shall be fifteen hundred dollars per annum. The Auditor, Treasurer, and Attorney-General shall each, for the first term, receive a salary of one thousand dollars per annum. And the further duties and salaries of said Executive officers shall each thereafter be prescribed by law.

6. The Lieutenant-Governor shall be *ex-officio* President of the Senate, and in case a vacancy should occur, from any cause whatever, in the office of Governor, he shall be Governor during such vacancy. The compensation of Lieutenant-Governor shall be double the compensation of a State Senator. Before the close of each session of the Senate, they shall elect a President *pro tempore*, who shall be Lieutenant-Governor in case a vacancy should occur in that office.

7. The term of each of the Executive officers named in this article, shall commence upon taking the oath of office, after the State shall be admitted by Congress into the Union, and continue until the

first Monday in January, 1860, except the Auditor, who shall continue in office until the first Monday in January, 1861, and until their successors shall have been duly elected and qualified.

8. Each officer created by this article, shall, before entering upon his duties, take an oath or affirmation to support the Constitution of the United States, and of this State, and faithfully discharge the duties of his office to the best of his judgment and ability.

9. Laws shall be passed at the first session of the Legislature after the State is admitted into the Union, to carry out the provisions of this article.

#### ARTICLE VI.—*Judicial.*

SEC. 1. The Judicial power of the State shall be vested in a Supreme Court, District Courts, Courts of Probate, Justices of the Peace, and such other courts, inferior to the Supreme Court, as the Legislature may from time to time establish by a two-thirds vote.

2. The Supreme Court shall consist of one Chief Justice, and two Associate Justices, but the number of Associate Justices may be increased to a number not exceeding four, by the Legislature, by a two-thirds vote, when it shall be deemed necessary. It shall have original jurisdiction in such remedial cases as may be prescribed by law, and appellate jurisdiction in all cases, both in law and equity, but there shall be no trial by jury in said court. It shall hold one or more terms in each year, as the Legislature may direct, at the Seat of Government, and the Legislature may provide, by a two-thirds vote, that one term in each year shall be held in each or any Judicial district. It shall be the duty of such court to appoint a reporter of its decisions. There shall be chosen by the qualified electors of the State, one Clerk of the Supreme Court, who shall hold his office for the term of three years, and until his successor is duly elected and qualified, and the Judges of the Supreme Court, or a majority of them, shall have the power to fill any vacancy in the office of Clerk of the Supreme Court until an election can regularly be had.

3. The Judges of the Supreme Court shall be elected by the electors of the State at large, and their term of office shall be seven years, and until their successors are elected and qualified.

4. The State shall be divided by the Legislature into six Judicial districts, which shall be composed of contiguous territory, be bounded by county lines, and contain a population as nearly equal as may be practicable. In each Judicial District one Judge shall be elected by the electors thereof, who shall constitute said court, and whose term of office shall be seven years. Every District Judge shall, at the time of his election, be a resident of the district for which he shall be elected, and shall reside therein during his continuance in office.

5. The District Court shall have original jurisdiction in all civil cases, both in law and equity, where the amount in controversy exceeds one hundred dollars, and in all criminal cases where the punishment shall exceed three months' imprisonment, or a fine of more



than one hundred dollars, and shall have such appellate jurisdiction as may be prescribed by law. The Legislature may provide by law that the Judge of one district may discharge the duties of the Judge of any other district not his own, when convenience or the public interest may require it.

6. The Judges of the Supreme and District Courts shall be men learned in the law, and shall receive such compensation, at stated times, as may be prescribed by the Legislature, which compensation shall not be diminished during their continuance in office, but they shall receive no other fee or reward for their services.

7. There shall be established in each organized county in the State a Probate Court, which shall be a Court of Record, and be held at such times and places as may be prescribed by law. It shall be held by one Judge, who shall be elected by the voters of the county, for the term of two years. He shall be a resident of such county at the time of his election, and reside therein during his continuance in office, and his compensation shall be provided by law. He may appoint his own Clerk, where none has been elected, but the Legislature may authorize the election by the electors of any county of one Clerk or Register of Probate for such county, whose powers, duties, term of office and compensation shall be prescribed by law. A Probate Court shall have jurisdiction over the estate of deceased persons and persons under guardianship, but no other jurisdiction, except as prescribed by this Constitution.

8. The Legislature shall provide for the election of a sufficient number of Justices of the Peace in each county, whose term of office shall be two years, and whose duties and compensation shall be prescribed by law : *Provided*, That no Justice of the Peace shall have jurisdiction of any civil cause where the amount in controversy shall exceed one hundred dollars, nor in a criminal cause where the punishment shall exceed three months' imprisonment, or a fine of over one hundred dollars, nor in any cause involving the title to real estate.

9. All judges other than those provided for in this Constitution shall be elected by the electors of the judicial district, county or city, for which they shall be created, nor for a longer term than seven years.

10. In case the office of any Judge shall become vacant before the expiration of the regular term for which he was elected, the vacancy shall be filled by appointment by the Governor until a successor is elected and qualified. And such successor shall be elected at the first annual election that occurs more than thirty days after the vacancy shall have happened.

11. The Justices of the Supreme Court and the District Courts shall hold no office under the United States, nor any other office under this State. And all votes for either of them for any elective office under this Constitution, except a Judicial Office, given by the Legislature or the people, during their continuance in office, shall be void.

12. The Legislature may at any time change the number of Judicial districts or their boundaries, when it shall be deemed expedient, but no such change shall vacate the office of any Judge.

13. There shall be elected in each county where a District Court shall be held, one Clerk of said Court, whose qualifications, duties, and compensation shall be prescribed by law, and whose term of office shall be four years.

14. Legal pleadings and proceedings in the Courts of this State shall be under the direction of the Legislature. The style of all process shall be "The State of Minnesota," and all indictments shall conclude "against the peace and dignity of the State of Minnesota."

15. The Legislature may provide for the election of one person in each organized county in this State, to be called a Court Commissioner, with Judicial power and jurisdiction not exceeding the power and jurisdiction of a Judge of the District Court at Chambers, or the Legislature may, instead of such election, confer such power and jurisdiction upon Judges of Probate in the State.

#### ARTICLE VII.—*Elective Franchise.*

SEC. 1. Every male person of the age of twenty-one years or upwards, belonging to either of the following classes, who shall have resided in the United States one year, and in this State for four months next preceeding any election, shall be entitled to vote at such election, in the election district of which he shall at the time have been for ten days a resident, for all officers that now are, or hereafter may be, elective by the people :

1st. White citizens of the United States.

2d. White persons of foreign birth, who shall have declared their intention to become citizens, conformably to the laws of the United States upon the subject of naturalization.

3d. Persons of mixed, white and Indian blood, who have adopted the customs and habits of civilization.

4th. Persons of Indian blood residing in this State, who have adopted the language, customs, and habits of civilization, after an examination before any District Court of the State, in such manner as may be provided by law, and shall have been pronounced by said Court capable of enjoying the rights of citizenship within the State.

2. No person not belonging to one of the classes specified in the preceding section ; no person who has been convicted of treason or any felony, unless restored to civil rights, and no person under guardianship, or who may be *non compos mentis* or insane, shall be entitled or permitted to vote at any election in this State.

3. For the purpose of voting, no person shall be deemed to have lost a residence by reason of his absence while employed in the service of the United States ; nor while engaged upon the waters of this State or of the United States ; nor while a student of any seminary of learning ; nor while kept at any alms-house or other asylum ; nor while confined in any public prison.



4. No soldier, seaman, or marine in the army or navy of the United States, shall be deemed a resident of this State in consequence of being stationed within the same.

5. During the day on which any election shall be held, no person shall be arrested by virtue of any civil process.

6. All elections shall be by ballot, except for such town officers as may be directed by law to be otherwise chosen.

7. Every person who, by the provisions of this article shall be entitled to vote at any election, shall be eligible to any office which now is, or hereafter shall be, elective by the people in the district wherein he shall have resided thirty days previous to such election, except as otherwise provided in this Constitution, or the Constitution and Laws of the United States.

#### ARTICLE VIII.—*School Funds, Education and Science.*

SEC. 1. The stability of a republican form of government depending mainly upon the intelligence of the people, it shall be the duty of the Legislature to establish a general and uniform system of public schools.

2. The proceeds of such lands as are or hereafter may be granted by the United States for the use of schools within each township in this State, shall remain a perpetual school fund to the State, and not more than one-third ( $\frac{1}{3}$ ) of said lands may be sold in two (2) years, one-third ( $\frac{1}{3}$ ) in five (5) years, and one-third ( $\frac{1}{3}$ ) in ten (10) years; but the lands of the greatest valuation shall be sold first, provided that no portion of said lands shall be sold otherwise than at public sale. The principal of all funds arising from sales, or other disposition of lands, or other property, granted or entrusted to this State in each township for educational purposes, shall forever be preserved inviolate and undiminished; and the income arising from the lease or sale of said school lands shall be distributed to the different townships throughout the State, in proportion to the number of scholars in each township between the ages of five and twenty-one years, and shall be faithfully applied to the specific objects of the original grants or appropriations.

3. The Legislature shall make such provisions, by taxation or otherwise, as with the income arising from the school fund, will secure a thorough and efficient system of Public Schools in each township in the State.

4. The location of the University of Minnesota, as established by existing laws, is hereby confirmed, and said institution is hereby declared to be the University of the State of Minnesota. All the rights, immunities, franchises and endowments heretofore granted or conferred, are hereby perpetuated unto the said University, and all lands which may be granted hereafter by Congress or other donations for said University purposes, shall vest in the institution referred to in this section.

ARTICLE IX.—*Finances of the State, and Banks and Banking.*

SEC. 1. All taxes to be raised in this State shall be as nearly equal as may be, and all property on which taxes are to be levied, shall have a cash valuation, and be equalized and uniform throughout the State.

2. The Legislature shall provide for an annual tax, sufficient to defray the estimated expenses of the State for each year, and whenever it shall happen that such ordinary expenses of the State for any year shall exceed the income of the State for such year, the Legislature shall provide for levying a tax for the ensuing year sufficient, with other sources of income, to pay the deficiency of the preceding year, together with the estimated expenses of such ensuing year.

3. Laws shall be passed taxing all moneys, credits, investments in bonds, stocks, joint stock companies, or otherwise, and also all real and personal property, according to its true value in money; but public burying grounds, public school houses, public hospitals, academies, colleges, universities, and all seminaries of learning, all churches, church property used for religious purposes and houses of worship, institutions of purely public charity, public property used exclusively for any public purpose, and personal property to an amount not exceeding in value two hundred dollars for each individual, shall, by general laws, be exempt from taxation.

4. Laws shall be passed for taxing the notes and bills discounted, or purchased moneys loaned, and all other property, effects, or dues of every description, of all banks, and of all bankers; so that all property employed in banking shall always be subject to a taxation equal to that imposed on the property of individuals.

5. For the purpose of defraying extraordinary expenditures, the State may contract public debts, but such debts shall never in the aggregate exceed two hundred and fifty thousand dollars; every such debt shall be authorized by law, for some single object to be distinctly specified therein; and no such law shall take effect until it shall have been passed by the vote of two-thirds of the members of each branch of the Legislature, to be recorded by yeas and nays on the journals of each house respectively; and every such law shall levy a tax annually sufficient to pay the annual interest of such debt, and also a tax sufficient to pay the principal of such debt within ten years from the final passage of such law, and shall specially appropriate the proceeds of such taxes to the payment of such principal and interest; and such appropriation and taxes shall not be repealed, postponed, or diminished until the principal and interest of such debt shall have been wholly paid. The State shall never contract any debts for works of internal improvement, or be a party in carrying on such works, except in cases where grants of land or other property shall have been made to the State especially dedicated by the grant to specific purposes, and in such cases the State shall devote thereto the avails of such grants, and may pledge or appropriate the revenues derived from such works in aid of their completion.



6. All debts authorized by the preceding section shall be contracted by loan on State bonds, of amounts not less than five hundred dollars each, on interest, payable within ten years after the final passage of the law authorizing such debt; and such bonds shall not be sold by the State under par. A correct registry of all such bonds shall be kept by the Treasurer, in numerical order, so as always to exhibit the number and amount unpaid, and to whom severally made payable.

7. The State shall never contract any public debt, unless in time of war, to repel invasion or suppress insurrection, except in the cases and in the manner provided in the fifth and sixth sections of this article.

8. The money arising from any loan made, or debt or liability contracted, shall be applied to the object specified in the act authorizing such debt or liability, or to the re-payment of such debt or liability, and to no other purpose whatever.

9. No money shall ever be paid out of the Treasury of this State, except in pursuance of an appropriation by law.

10. The credit of the State shall never be given or loaned in aid of any individual, association or corporation.

11. There shall be published by the Treasurer, in at least one newspaper printed at the Seat of Government, during the first week in January of each year, and in the next volume of the Acts of the Legislature, detailed statements of all moneys drawn from the Treasury during the preceding year, for what purposes, and to whom paid, and by what law authorized, and also of all moneys received, and by what authority, and from whom.

12. Suitable laws shall be passed by the Legislature for the safe keeping, transfer, and disbursement of the State and school funds, and all officers and other persons charged with the same shall be required to give ample security for all moneys and funds of any kind, to keep an accurate entry of each sum received, and of each payment and transfer, and if any of said officers or other persons shall convert to his own use in any form, or shall loan with or without interest, contrary to law, or shall deposit in banks, or exchange for other funds, any portion of the funds of the State, every such act shall be adjudged to be an embezzlement of so much of the State funds as shall be thus taken, and shall be declared a felony; and any failure to pay over or produce the State or school funds intrusted to such persons, on demand, shall be held and taken to be *prima facie* evidence of such embezzlement.

13. The Legislature may, by a two-thirds vote, pass a General Banking Law, with the following restrictions and requirements, viz:

First, The Legislature shall have no power to pass any law sanctioning in any manner, directly or indirectly, the suspension of specie payments by any person, association, or corporation issuing bank notes of any description.

Second, The Legislature shall provide by law for the registry of

all bills or notes issued or put in circulation as money, and shall require ample security in United States stock or State stocks for the redemption of the same in specie, and in case of a depreciation of said stocks, or any part thereof, to the amount of ten per cent. or more on the dollar, the bank or banks owning said stocks shall be required to make up said deficiency by additional stocks.

Third, The stockholders in any corporation or joint association for banking purposes, issuing bank notes, shall be individually liable in an amount equal to double the amount of stock owned by them, for all the debts of such corporation or association, and such individual liability shall continue for one year after any transfer or sale of stock by any stockholder or stockholders.

Fourth, In case of the insolvency of any bank or banking association, the billholders thereof shall be entitled to preference in payment over all other creditors of such bank or association.

Fifth, Any General Banking Law which may be passed in accordance with this article, shall provide for recording the names of all stockholders in such corporations, the amount of stock held by each, the time of transfer, and by whom transferred.

#### ARTICLE X.—*Of Corporations having no Banking Privileges.*

SEC. 1. The term "Corporations," as used in this article, shall be construed to include all associations and joint stock companies having any of the powers and privileges not possessed by individuals or partnerships, except such as embrace banking privileges, and all corporations shall have the right to sue, and shall be liable to be sued in all courts in like manner as natural persons.

2. No corporation shall be formed under special acts, except for municipal purposes.

3. Each stockholder in any corporation shall be liable to the amount of the stock held or owned by him.

4. Lands may be taken for public way, for the purpose of granting to any corporation the franchise of way for public use. In all cases, however, a fair and equitable compensation shall be paid for such land, and the damages arising from the taking of the same; but all corporations being common carriers, enjoying the right of way in pursuance of the provisions of this section, shall be bound to carry the mineral, agricultural and other productions or manufactures on equal and reasonable terms.

#### ARTICLE XI.—*Counties and Townships.*

SEC. 1. The Legislature may, from time to time, establish and organize new counties, but no new county shall contain less than four hundred square miles; nor shall any county be reduced below that amount; and all laws changing county lines in counties already organized, or for removing county seats shall, before taking effect, be submitted to the electors of the county or counties to be affected



thereby, at the next general election after the passage thereof, and be adopted by a majority of such electors. Counties now established may be enlarged, but not reduced below four hundred (400) square miles.

2. The Legislature may organize any city into a separate county when it has attained a population of twenty thousand inhabitants, without reference to geographical extent, when a majority of the electors of the county in which such city may be situated, voting thereon, shall be in favor of separate organization.

3. Laws may be passed providing for the organization, for municipal and other town purposes, of any Congressional or fractional townships in the several counties in the State, provided that when a township is divided by county lines, or does not contain one hundred inhabitants, it may be attached to one or more adjoining townships or parts of townships, for the purposes aforesaid.

4. Provision shall be made by law for the election of such county or township officers as may be necessary.

5. Any county or township organization shall have such powers of local taxation as may be prescribed by law.

6. No money shall be drawn from any county or township treasury except by authority of law.

#### ARTICLE XII.—*Of the Militia.*

SEC. 1. It shall be the duty of the Legislative Assembly to pass such laws for the organization, discipline, and service of the Militia of the State, as may be deemed necessary.

#### ARTICLE XIII.—*Impeachment and Removal from Office.*

SEC. 1. The Governor, Secretary of State, Treasurer, Auditor, Attorney-General, and the Judges of the Supreme and District Courts, may be impeached for corrupt conduct in office, or for crimes and misdemeanors; but judgment in such cases shall not extend farther than to removal from office and disqualification to hold and enjoy any office of honor, trust, or profit in this State. The party convicted thereof, shall nevertheless be liable and subject to indictment, trial, judgment, and punishment according to law.

2. The Legislature of this State may provide for the removal of inferior officers from office, for malfeasance or nonfeasance in the performance of their duties.

3. No officer shall exercise the duties of his office after he shall have been impeached and before his acquittal.

4. On the trial of an impeachment against the Governor, the Lieutenant-Governor shall not act as a member of the Court.

5. No person shall be tried on impeachment before he shall have been served with a copy thereof at least twenty days previous to the day set for trial.

ARTICLE XIV.—*Amendments to the Constitution.*

SEC. 1. Whenever a majority of both houses of the Legislature shall deem it necessary to alter or amend this Constitution, they may propose such alterations or amendments, which proposed amendments shall be published with the laws which have been passed at the same session, and said amendments shall be submitted to the people for their approval or rejection; and if it shall appear in a manner to be provided by law, that a majority of voters present and voting shall have ratified such alterations or amendments, the same shall be valid to all intents and purposes, as a part of this Constitution. If two or more alterations or amendments shall be submitted at the same time, it shall be so regulated that the voters shall vote for or against each separately.

2. Whenever two-thirds of the members elected to each branch of the Legislature shall think it necessary to call a Convention to revise this Constitution, they shall recommend to the electors to vote, at the next election for members of the Legislature, for or against a Convention; and if a majority of all the electors voting at said election, shall have voted for a Convention, the Legislature shall, at their next session, provide by law for calling the same. The Convention shall consist of as many members as the House of Representatives, who shall be chosen in the same manner, and shall meet within three months after their election for the purpose aforesaid.

ARTICLE XV.—*Miscellaneous Subjects.*

SEC. 1. The Seat of Government of the State shall be at the City of St. Paul, but the Legislature at their first, or any future session, may provide by law for a change of the Seat of Government by a vote of the people, or may locate the same upon the land granted by Congress, for a Seat of Government to the State, and in the event of the Seat of Government being removed from the City of St. Paul to any other place in the State, the Capitol building and grounds shall be dedicated to an institution for the promotion of science, literature and the arts, to be organized by the Legislature of the State, and of which institution the Minnesota Historical Society shall always be a department.

2. Persons residing on Indian lands within the State, shall enjoy all the rights and privileges of citizens as though they lived in any other portion of the State, and shall be subject to taxation.

3. The Legislature shall provide for a uniform oath or affirmation to be administered at elections, and no person shall be compelled to take any other or different form of oath to entitle him to vote.

4. There shall be a seal of the State, which shall be kept by the Secretary of State, and be used by him officially, and shall be called the Great Seal of the State of Minnesota, and shall be attached to all official acts of the Governor (his signature to acts and resolves of



the Legislature excepted) requiring authentication. The Legislature shall provide for an appropriate device and motto for said seal.

5. The Territorial prison as located under existing laws shall, after the adoption of the Constitution, be and remain one of the State prisons of the State of Minnesota.

#### ARTICLE XVI.—*Schedule.*

SEC. 1. That no inconvenience may arise by reason of a change from a Territorial to a permanent State Government, it is declared that all rights, actions, prosecutions, judgments, claims and contracts, as well of individuals as of bodies corporate, shall continue as if no change had taken place; and all process which may be issued under the authority of the Territory of Minnesota previous to its admission into the Union of the United States, shall be as valid as if issued in the name of the State.

2. All laws now in force in the Territory of Minnesota not repugnant to this Constitution shall remain in force until they expire by their own limitation, or be altered or repealed by the Legislature.

3. All fines, penalties, or forfeitures accruing to the Territory of Minnesota, shall inure to the State.

4. All recognizances heretofore taken, or which may be taken before the change from a Territorial to permanent State Government, shall remain valid, and shall pass to and may be prosecuted in the name of the State, and all bonds executed to the Governor of the Territory, or to any other officer or court in his or their official capacity, shall pass to the Governor or State authority, and their successors in office, for the uses therein respectively expressed; and may be sued for and recovered accordingly; and all the estate of property, real, personal, or mixed, and all judgments, bonds, specialties, choses in action and claims and debts of whatsoever description, of the Territory of Minnesota, shall inure to and vest in the State of Minnesota, and may be sued for and recovered in the same manner and to the same extent, by the State of Minnesota, as the same could have been by the Territory of Minnesota. All criminal prosecutions and penal actions which may have arisen or which may arise before the change from a Territorial to a State government, and which shall then be pending, shall be prosecuted to judgment and execution in the name of the State. All offences committed against the laws of the Territory of Minnesota before the change from a Territorial to a State government, and which shall not be prosecuted before such change, may be prosecuted in the name and by the authority of the State of Minnesota, with like effect as though such change had not taken place, and all penalties incurred shall remain the same as if this Constitution had not been adopted. All actions at law and suits in equity which may be pending in any of the courts of the Territory of Minnesota at the time of the change from a Territorial to a State government, may be continued

and transferred to any court of the State which shall have jurisdiction of the subject matter thereof.

5. All Territorial officers, civil and military, now holding their offices under the authority of the United States, or of the Territory of Minnesota, shall continue to hold and exercise their respective offices until they be superseded by the authority of the State.

6. The first session of the Legislature of the State of Minnesota shall commence on the first Wednesday of December next, and shall be held at the Capitol in the City of St. Paul.

7. The laws regulating the election and qualification of all district, county and precinct officers, shall continue and be in force until the Legislature shall otherwise provide by law.

8. The President of the Convention shall, immediately after the adjournment thereof, cause this Constitution to be deposited in the office of the Governor of the Territory; and if after the submission of the same to a vote of the people, as hereinafter provided, it shall appear that it has been adopted by a vote of the people of the State, then the Governor shall forward a certified copy of the same, together with an abstract of the votes polled for and against said Constitution to the President of the United States, to be by him laid before the Congress of the United States.

9. For the purposes of the first election, the State shall constitute one district, and shall elect three members to the House of Representatives of the United States.

10. For the purposes of the first election for members of the State Senate and the House of Representatives, the State shall be divided into Senatorial and Representative Districts, as follows, viz: 1st District, Washington county; 2nd District, Ramsey county; 3rd District, Dakota county; 4th District, so much of Hennepin county as lies west of the Mississippi; 5th District, Rice county; 6th District, Goodhue county; 7th District, Scott county; 8th District, Olmsted county; 9th District, Fillmore county; 10th District, Houston county; 11th District, Winona county; 12th District, Wabashaw county; 13th District, Mower and Dodge counties; 14th District, Freeborn and Faribault counties; 15th District, Steele and Waseca counties; 16th District, Blue Earth and Le Sueur counties; 17th District, Nicollet and Brown counties; 18th District, Sibley, Renville and McLeod counties; 19th District, Carver and Wright counties; 20th District, Benton, Stearns and Meeker counties; 21st District, Morrison, Crow Wing and Mille Lac counties; 22nd District, Cass, Pembina and Todd counties; 23rd District, so much of Hennepin county as lies east of the Mississippi; 24th District, Sherburne, Anoka and Manomin counties; 25th District, Chisago, Pine and Isanti counties; 26th District, Buchanan, Carlton, St. Louis, Lake and Itaska counties.

11. The counties of Brown, Stearns, Todd, Cass, Pembina and Renville, as applied in the preceding section, shall not be deemed to include any territory west of the State line, but shall be deemed to



include all counties and parts of counties east of said line as were created out of the territory of either, at the last session of the Legislature.

12. The senators and representatives at the first election shall be apportioned among the several Senatorial and Representative Districts as follows, to wit:

| 1st Dist. | 2 | Senat'rs. | 3 | Represent'ves. | 15th Dist. | 1   | Senat'r. | 4   | Represent'ves. |
|-----------|---|-----------|---|----------------|------------|-----|----------|-----|----------------|
| 2d        | " | ..3       | " | ..6            | "          | ..1 | "        | ..3 | "              |
| 3d        | " | ..2       | " | ..5            | "          | ..1 | "        | ..3 | "              |
| 4th       | " | ..2       | " | ..4            | "          | ..1 | "        | ..3 | "              |
| 5th       | " | ..2       | " | ..3            | "          | ..1 | "        | ..3 | "              |
| 6th       | " | ..1       | " | ..4            | "          | ..1 | "        | ..3 | "              |
| 7th       | " | ..1       | " | ..3            | "          | ..1 | "        | ..1 | "              |
| 8th       | " | ..2       | " | ..4            | "          | ..1 | "        | ..1 | "              |
| 9th       | " | ..2       | " | ..6            | "          | ..1 | "        | ..2 | "              |
| 10th      | " | ..2       | " | ..3            | "          | ..1 | "        | ..1 | "              |
| 11th      | " | ..2       | " | ..4            | "          | ..1 | "        | ..1 | "              |
| 12th      | " | ..1       | " | ..3            | "          | ..1 | "        | ..1 | "              |
| 13th      | " | ..2       | " | ..3            | "          | ..1 | "        | ..1 | "              |
| 14th      | " | ..1       | " | ..3            | "          | ..1 | "        | ..1 | "              |
|           |   |           |   |                | 37         |     | 80       |     |                |

13. The returns from the 22d District shall be made to and canvassed by the judges of election at the precinct of Otter Tail City.

14. Until the Legislature shall otherwise provide, the State shall be divided into Judicial Districts as follows, viz:

The counties of Washington, Chisago, Manomin, Anoka, Isanti, Pine, Buchanan, Carlton, St. Louis and Lake, shall constitute the First Judicial District.

The county of Ramsey shall constitute the Second Judicial District.

The counties of Houston, Winona, Fillmore, Olmstead, and Wabashaw, shall constitute the Third Judicial District.

The counties of Hennepin, Carver, Wright, Meeker, Sherburne, Benton, Stearns, Morrison, Crow Wing, Mille Lac, Itaska, Pembina, Todd and Cass, shall constitute the Fourth Judicial District.

The counties of Dakota, Goodhue, Scott, Rice, Steele, Waseca, Dodge, Mower and Freeborn, shall constitute the Fifth Judicial District.

The counties of Le Sueur, Sibley, Nicollet, Blue Earth, Faribault, McLeod, Renville, Brown, and all other counties in the State, not included within the other Districts, shall constitute the Sixth Judicial District.

15. Each of the foregoing enumerated Judicial Districts may, at the first election, elect one Prosecuting Attorney for the District.

16. Upon the second Tuesday, the 13th day of October, 1857, an election shall be held for members of the House of Representatives of the United States, Governor, Lieutenant-Governor, Supreme and District Judges, members of the Legislature, and all other officers designated in this Constitution, and also for the submission of this Constitution to the people for their adoption or rejection.

17. Upon the day so designated as aforesaid, every free white male inhabitant over the age of twenty-one years, who shall have

resided within the limits of the State for ten days previous to the day of said election, may vote for all officers to be elected under this Constitution at such election, and also for or against the adoption of this Constitution.

18. In voting for or against the adoption of this Constitution, the words "for Constitution," or "against Constitution," may be written or printed on the ticket of each voter, but no voter shall vote for or against this Constitution on a separate ballot from that cast by him for officers to be elected at said election under this Constitution; and if upon the canvass of the votes so polled, it shall appear that there was a greater number of votes polled for than against said Constitution, then this Constitution shall be deemed to be adopted as the Constitution of the State of Minnesota; and all the provisions and obligations of this Constitution, and of the schedule hereunto attached, shall thereafter be valid to all intents and purposes as the Constitution of said State.

19. At said election the polls shall be opened, the election held, returns made and certificates issued in all respects as provided by law for opening, closing, and conducting elections, and making returns of the same, except as hereinbefore specified, and excepting, also, that polls may be opened and elections held at any point or points, in any of the counties where precincts may be established as provided by law, ten days previous to the day of election, not less than ten miles from the place of voting in any established precinct.

20. It shall be the duty of Judges and Clerks of election, in addition to the returns required by law from each precinct, to forward to the Secretary of the Territory, by mail, immediately after the close of the election, a certified copy of the poll book containing the name of each person who has voted in the precinct, and the number of votes polled for each person for any office, and the votes polled for and against the adoption of this Constitution.

21. The returns of said election for and against this Constitution, and for all State officers and members of the House of Representatives of the United States, shall be made and certificates issued in the manner now prescribed by law for returning votes given for Delegate to Congress, and the returns for all District officers, Judicial, Legislative or otherwise, shall be made to the Register of Deeds of the senior county in each District, in the manner prescribed by law, except as otherwise provided. The returns for all officers elected at large, shall be canvassed by the Governor of the Territory, assisted by Joseph R. Brown and Thomas J. Galbraith, at the time designated by law for canvassing the vote for Delegate to Congress.

22. If upon canvassing the votes for and against the adoption of this Constitution, it shall appear that there has been polled a greater number of votes against than for it, then no certificates of election shall be issued for any State or District officer provided for in this Constitution, and no State organization shall have validity within the limits of the Territory until otherwise provided for, and until a



Constitution for a State government shall have been adopted by the people.

Done in Convention, this twenty-ninth day of August, one thousand eight hundred and fifty-seven, and of the Independence of the United States the eighty-second year. In witness whereof, we have hereunto subscribed our names at the Capitol, in the City of St. Paul, this twenty-ninth day of August, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and fifty-seven.









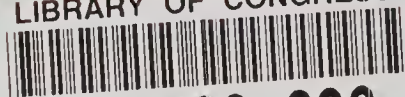








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